

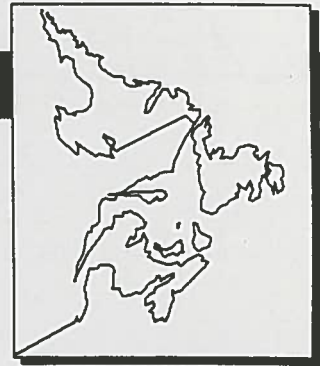
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INTERIM REPORT

Review of the Atlantic Fisheries Consultative and Advisory Processes

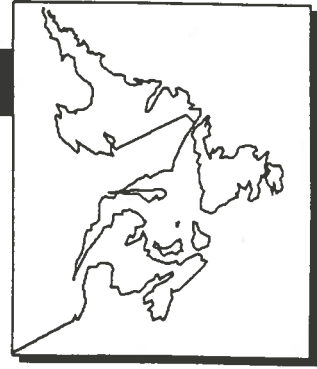
JUNE 1991

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INTERIM REPORT

Review of the Atlantic Fisheries

Consultative and Advisory Processes

JUNE 1991

Department of Fisheries
& Oceans

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**Reflections on Improving
the Advisory and
Consultative Processes
of the
Atlantic Fisheries Sector**

JUNE 1991

(i)

Foreword

Following last summer's strategic planning session at Montebello, the Assistant Deputy Minister of Atlantic Fisheries was directed to "develop, in consultation with the Minister's Office and other ADMs, a comprehensive assessment of all DFO consultative bodies and options for renewal of the consultative process, including measures to address the needs of currently under-represented groups".

This discussion paper represents the contribution of the Atlantic Fisheries Sector to the task as assigned. It (i) examines the nature of public consultation, (ii) describes the Sector's consultative process, (iii) reviews selected fisheries management consultation processes, (iv) presents the views of a segment of the fishing industry and the media on improving consultation, (v) compare these points of view with those of sectoral officials, (vi) suggests an approach for building a more effective consultation process for the Department, and (vii) presents recommendations for improving the Sector's existing consultative process.

The paper does not purport to describe all that there is to know on the subject. Rather, its purpose is to inform and to invite reflection on the proposed improvements for the renewal of the Sector's formal consultative process.

(ii)

Executive Summary

This interim report examined the workings and overall performance of the Sector's formal consultative processes, including the Atlantic Regional Council, as directed by Minister Bernard Valcourt during a strategic retreat (summer 1990) attended by the Minister, his staff and senior departmental officials.

A working group was established to carry out the review and met on four occasions. As discussions and analysis progressed, it became clear the review should not be directed toward a comprehensive assessment of the consultative processes supporting the Sector's three principal program areas - fisheries management, fish habitat management and aquaculture development - as initially intended. The processes for each are not comparable in that they serve to achieve different (but legitimate) goals and are not client compatible in the strict sense. They are in essence different consultative mechanisms. For these reasons, the review was concentrated on the sector's fisheries management consultative process and the role of the Atlantic Regional Council.

The Working Group examined a variety of "academic" literature, policy papers and instructional material dealing with effective government-public interaction. The report of the Public Service Task Force on Service to the Public (PS 2000) was also consulted in framing the global parameters of the review. The contemporary approaches set out in these publications and the personal knowledge and experience of group members were both relied upon in reaching conclusions on improvements to the fisheries management consultation process. The review of the role of the Atlantic Regional Council was conducted separately by the Chairman of the Working Group.

The findings of the Working Group relative to the fisheries management consultative process can be summarized as follows:

- With some 100 distinct resource management advisory committees in place in eastern Canada, there is no shortage of opportunity for the Sector's clients to actively participate in the management and policy setting functions .

(iii)

- **Participation is crucial to effective program and policy development, and service. This is recognized and endorsed by all parties.**
- **Clients and interested observers (stakeholders) are not entirely satisfied with how the consultative process has been "managed" and have advocated corrective measures in a number of areas, including a client decision-making role.**
- **A number of procedural and structural improvements should be implemented to increase the effectiveness of existing sectoral committees; chief among these are the development of criteria to deal with the question of "representation" and the adoption of practices which encourage "shared responsibility" for the process and outcomes.**

As regards the Atlantic Regional Council, it is felt that the body constitutes a unique policy think-tank for the referral and analysis of complex and controversial issues, the results of which benefit the Minister, the Department and the fishing industry. Improvements are nonetheless required and suggested areas are identified in the report.

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- W. Bruce - Newfoundland**
- G. Jefferson - Scotia-Fundy**
- J.-M. Nadeau - Quebec**
- F.J. Ring - Gulf**
- M. Stanfield - Ottawa**

With contributions by:

- J. Jones - Gulf**
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1.0 *The Nature of Public Consultation*

1.1 *Essential Elements*

Consultation is seen as a continuum of interaction between government and the public it serves. It may range from simple listening at one end, to acting upon jointly agreed solutions at the other. In between, there is dialogue, debate and analysis. Consultation may refer to individual steps along the continuum or to the continuum as a whole.

According to the Public Policy Forum, an Ottawa based non-profit organization that works to build understanding between government and the private sector, consultation "implies sharing, it means surrendering unilateral control (of the agenda). It includes inquiring, listening, understanding and caring. It does not mean making decisions and then trying to get people to buy in to them."

Consultation occurs in many forms and at both the political and bureaucratic levels. As a formal process, consultation involves established structures (i.e. commissions, committees, task forces). Informal consultation is manifested in the day-to-day interactions between government officials and individuals and groups.

It is important to note that consultation with clients and stakeholders (an individual, group, government or other organization that has a vital interest in an issue, will be directly affected by it, and/or makes an important contribution to its resolution) does not necessarily lead to agreement on a particular course of action, though this may result. Nor will consultation remove the need for governments to decide, which is what they are elected to do. Rather, consultation facilitates the decision-making process by ensuring that the interests, needs and concerns of various parties are considered in the formulation of policies and programs. In realistic terms, consultation is a process and not an event.

1.2 *Purpose*

The federal government consults with groups and individuals for many reasons: to collect information needed for policy making; to involve external groups in the policy development process; to gauge the impact of public policy decisions on a particular group; to develop

programs and improve service consistently; and to determine the level of public support a proposed initiative might enjoy. Likewise, groups and individuals consult with government to influence the course of public policy; to improve the quality of public policy; to determine what policy initiatives may be on the government's horizon; and to get redesigned or improved programs and better service delivery.

1.3 *Disincentives to Government - Client Consultations*

A number of important factors have influenced the manner in which the federal government has consulted with its clients in the past.

First, according to the PS 2000 Task Force on Service to the Public, the nature and organization of the federal government itself, with its tradition of secrecy and inwardness, did much to inhibit the development of a client - focussed consultative "culture" in the federal public service. This does not mean that public servants do not value consultation (80% of them attach great importance to it). The Task Force believes that public servants lack the outlook, knowledge and skills to initiate and sustain consultation through to the policy implementation stage.

Second, the proliferation of interest groups and single issue groups claiming a legitimate role in policy-making placed increased strain on the political process, created a logistical problem in the consultative process and made it even harder on officials to find common ground. We now work in the "participation" era where clients and stakeholders are increasingly well-educated, vocal and demanding of government.

Third, Canadians held an innate attraction to the status quo and thus an aversion to consultation aimed at changing that status quo. This was particularly true for Fisheries and Oceans where history had repeatedly shown that it often took a crisis in the fishery before meaningful consultation could be held to effectuate change aimed at resolving the threats.

Fourth, and equally impacting upon the Department, the baggage of the past and a paucity of traditional values predisposed the fishing industry and their representatives to be cynical about the value of consultation.

1.4 *Factors Motivating Change in Government - Client Consultations*

Globalization of trade and technology, the continuing search for constitutional equilibrium, the need to reduce the national debt, the changing role of native peoples in society and the land claim issues, the challenge of resolving sensitive federal-provincial issues, among others, are but a few factors which will have a major impact on Canadian society over the next decade.

Heightened demands by Canadians for a more open and responsive style of government and improved services will bring unrelentless pressures to bear upon the federal government's capacity to deal effectively with these challenges and demands.

In the opinion of the Task Force on Service to the Public, Canadians are demanding a new level of consultation with, and participation in, government. They seek a more accessible and visible public service, one that engages them more readily in the decision-making process.

The Task Force conducted extensive field work to obtain the views of public servants on a number of issues, including public-private sector consultations. Among the Task Force's key findings were the following:

- Consultations are viewed by public servants as integral to any real commitment to service to the public; organizational culture and leadership from the top which supports and values consultations is essential to effective consultations.
- Most departments appear to recognize the importance of strong consultative practices, have a growing awareness of impediments to effective consultations and are working to remove them.
- Approaches to consultations vary greatly among departments; many are still in the early stages of developing the culture, systems, procedures and mechanisms.

The Task Force has issued a call for change to occur in the following areas:

- Public service organizations must become more client-centered and more effective in meeting citizens' needs and expectations. This will necessitate a significant shift in culture and values and will require a durable commitment by top management to these goals.
- Public servants must consult much more actively with clients and other stakeholders, both in developing proposals for ministers and in administering programs. The public service must become more open and participating.
- Managers at all levels must both support and lead the public service much better than in the past, so that public servants feel valued, motivated, informed and challenged to put forth their best efforts on behalf of the people of Canada.

What are the implications of these issues, findings and challenges for departmental officials generally and the decision-making and consultative processes specifically. That there are few implications is to underscore matters considerably. The Department's agenda approaching the twenty-first century is top heavy with numerous sensitive issues - native entitlements with its political, legal and operational dimensions, ministerial authority and responsibility, sustainable fisheries, environmental regulatory regimes for fish habitat management, international relations, and budgetary restraint. Clients are no less demanding in their desire for greater involvement in the decision-making process, for new and improved services and for a more efficient administrative organization.

The implications therefore are likely to have a fairly profound and sustained effect on officials and on their interaction with clients and the general public.

2.0 Atlantic Fisheries Consultative Process

2.1 Evolution

The evolution of the consultative process on the East Coast has its genesis in the history of the commercial fishery and the establishment of industry organizations. The fishery was beset with resource and financial crises in the mid-1970s and early 1980s, at a time when the

industry as a whole lacked the sophistication to analyze and respond adequately to the significant new policy issues that surfaced when fisheries jurisdiction was extended to 200 miles.

This was especially true of inshore fishermen's organizations which, with a few notable exceptions, were fragmented and therefore unable to analyze, consult and advise on behalf of their sector, follow through on commitments, and communicate the rationale for decisions taken jointly with government or in various advisory committees. Often times, fishermen's representatives did little more than commit themselves as individuals in any discussion.

Not surprisingly, there ensued a tendency for individual fishermen to "take on" bureaucratic systems directly or with the assistance of politicians and the media. The Department was seen by some critics as adopting a paternalistic approach in consultations with inshore fishermen by doing for fishermen what they could not do for themselves - that is, represent their own interests.

The same could not be said of the processing sector of the fishing industry which was better organized in each province as well as under the umbrella of the Fisheries Council of Canada. The majority of processing companies were capable of responding quickly and effectively to any policy or program change relevant to their perceived interests. So were the various provincial organizations and the Council. The Department was thus able to deal effectively with processing sector spokesmen to obtain views and seek advice that were representative of a wide body of opinion.

2.2 Early Consultative Mechanisms

Mechanisms for consultation first evolved in response to specific issues and requirements of the commercial fishery. The Atlantic Coast Herring Advisory Committee was established in 1972 to provide a forum for discussion, input and advice on the Atlantic herring fishery. In groundfish, a crisis in the Gulf redfish fishery in the mid-1970s led to the formation of the Offshore Groundfish Advisory Committee (OGAC) consisting of representatives of the Department and provincial governments, as well as fishermen and processing companies. At about the same time, efforts aimed at improved conservation and protection of the lobster fishery gave rise to the establishment of district-level advisory committees throughout the Maritime Provinces.

The advent of extended fisheries jurisdiction, and with it a modern philosophy of fisheries management which emphasized licensing control, and global and fleet quotas, led to the formation of the Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee (AGAC). The committee, comprised of departmental and provincial government officials, processing companies (with offshore licences), and various inshore and midshore fishermen's representatives from the five eastern provinces, met annually (or semi-annually as required) to discuss the allocation of quotas amongst fleet sectors and to find consensus for acceptance of a variety of management measures. During the committee's formative years, representatives of the processing sector generally displayed a stronger capacity for defending their interests and needs while their counterparts in the harvesting sector were, on the whole, hampered by weak organizational structures, low membership and poor inter-association coordination. Provincial governments sought to strike an overall balance in allocations for their constituents while not hesitating to apply pressure on the Department during consultations and throughout the weeks leading to the announcement of annual groundfish quotas.

Other regional management advisory committees were established as conditions in the fisheries warranted, as new fisheries were developed, as scientific assessment of stocks improved to allow for more effective resource management, and at the request of the fishing industry. These included the Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee (NSAC), the Gulf Shrimp and Gulf Crab Advisory Committees (GSAC, GGAC), and the Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Advisory Committee (ABTAC). In addition to these species - oriented advisory bodies, the Department from time to time organized and conducted region-wide seminars (in effect policy conferences) on significant scientific and fisheries management issues. These seminars, attended by fishing industry and provincial government representatives, were very useful in promoting information exchanges, developing awareness about an issue and building consensus for input into the formulation of medium and long term fisheries policy.

A Federal-Provincial Atlantic Fisheries Committee (FPAFC) at the Deputy Minister level was established in 1985 to address federal-provincial and inter-provincial fisheries issues. At the ministerial level, the Atlantic Council of Fisheries Ministers (ACFM) provided a means for dealing with policies and programs at the political level.

2.3 External Studies of the Process

Between 1982 and 1986, a number of broad based and important studies were commissioned by the federal government in response to various crises which had threatened to bring about the collapse of the Atlantic fishery. In examining these issues, the Department's consultative process was also studied in respect of how licensing and allocations matters could be better dealt with.

The Task Force on Atlantic Fisheries (1982) recommended that a review be made of the membership on management advisory committees and, in the interest of effective communications and the pursuit of consensus, the roll be limited to the minimum necessary to ensure that essential interests were represented.

The Pearse Commission on Pacific Fisheries Policy (1982) recommended that a consultative process be established to deal with catch, allocation and licensing issues.

The Federal Progressive Conservative Party's 1984 platform on Atlantic fisheries policy proposed a system of councils "through which fishermen, processors, and provincial governments will participate directly and openly in the formulation and monitoring of federal fisheries policy".

The Task Force on Program Review (1985) called for further improvements in working with industry. The Study Team on Natural Resources concluded that DFO management should remain part of consultative groups, that consultations should increase in such areas as the setting of research priorities, development, long term licensing and allocation policies, and the drafting of regulations.

2.4 Internal Studies of the Process

The Atlantic Fisheries Sector undertook a comprehensive review of the structure and internal workings of its fisheries management advisory committees in 1986. The review recommended that the consultation model then in effect for groundfish (local, regional, zonal committees) be adopted for consultation on pelagic, shellfish and anadromous fisheries management. The review further proposed the adoption of nine principles or criteria for consultation with clients. The Atlantic Regional Council (ARC) and the Atlantic Council of Fisheries Ministers

(ACFM) ratified the proposal to extend the groundfish consultation model to the formation of Atlantic-wide committees for pelagic, shellfish and anadromous species with broadly-based representative membership. When a working group of the FPAFC was struck to develop membership lists, provincial representatives interpreted the mandate assigned by the ACFM as also including a re-opening of discussions on streamlining the consultative process. Unable to resolve the impasse, the working group was disbanded after two meetings.

More recently, the Haché Task Force on Scotia-Fundy Groundfish (1989) addressed specific shortcomings in the consultative framework. An extensive review of the Scotia-Fundy consultative process was completed in 1990 and progress continues in implementing a broad cross-section of recommendations.

2.5 Purpose and Objectives

The growing complexity of fisheries issues and those related to environmental protection, aboriginal rights, employment and international trade, among others, creates a need for outside advice, specialized knowledge and cooperation.

The primary purpose of consultation is to provide a forum where the Department and the public it serves can exchange information and points of view on a broad array of issues and initiatives. The opportunities afforded by consultation include:

- to inform and educate clients and the general public in regards to a variety of federal initiatives, opportunities and challenges (this is an inherent communications function but with linkages to consultation);
- to acquire and use local information in developing new guidelines and programs or in re-designing existing ones (e.g. surveillance and enforcement monitoring schemes);
- to foster involvement and cooperation in the policy formulation and decision-making processes;
- to resolve issues and concerns through consensus whenever possible (i.e. minimize conflict between user groups);

- to obtain feedback on the effectiveness of departmental plans and policies;
- to foster a continuing appreciation of and sensitivity to each party's needs, expectations, priorities and constraints (i.e. promoting a partnership attitude);
- to facilitate the implementation of policies and the delivery of programs.

2.6 *Benefits and Shortcomings*

Consultation can generate both short and long term benefits for the Department and its clients. It can:

- allow clients to be kept abreast of departmental programs and policies;
- provide opportunity to participate in the resource management process;
- provide early warnings as to whether the Department's policies and new initiatives will be well-received and successfully implemented;
- act as a sounding board for the evaluation of plans, programs and policies as well as the emergence of trends and issues;
- provide clients with a clearer insight into the constraints facing the Department as well as the role of the bureaucracy in the decision-making and policy formulation processes;
- foster client-to-client interaction;
- assist the Department in focussing its activities where public demand and need are greatest;
- assist the Department in developing new or refining existing approaches relative to its mandate, in resolving conflict and in reconciling the "public interest."

Benefits aside, the current process has a number of shortcomings. The process is:

- labour intensive, time consuming and expensive to administer in times of increasing fiscal restraint;
- so heavily structured that it is at times dysfunctional and leads to complacency of the membership;
- by and large ineffective in achieving consensus amongst all parties on sensitive issues;
- without guidelines to deal with such issues as representation and the participation of stakeholders;
- prone to re-directing further representations to the Minister's office to a much greater extent than is necessary or desirable;
- not easily amenable to considerations of scientific advice in the discussion of fisheries management initiatives given the timing constraints under which the advice is generated, reviewed and released;
- often lacking in mechanisms which forge accountability for acting upon accepted courses of action.

3.0 Existing Consultative Arrangements

3.1 Fisheries Management

The Department's consultative framework for resource management extends across all fisheries that are exploited by native, commercial and recreational fishermen. Management advisory committees have evolved at the local, regional and zonal levels in a manner complementary to the development and needs of the fisheries themselves. The Department's clients include fishermen, processors and plant workers, and their organization representatives; stakeholders include other federal departments, provincial and municipal governments, fisheries institutions and representatives of related industries (i.e. suppliers, boatbuilders).

Representation varies from committee to committee but generally includes independent fishermen (on occasion), fishermen's association or union representatives, processors or their representatives, and provincial government officials. Ad hoc committees are established as required to deal with specific issues (e.g. licensing, ITQs). The more important advisory committees have permanent departmental working groups affiliated with them to provide specialized support and advice.

None of the resource management advisory committees has decision-making authority conferred to them. All are advisory bodies which function by means of consensus as the preferred approach to the resolution of issues and provision of advice. With or without consensus, the decision-making responsibility for all issues resides with the Department or the Minister. The overwhelming majority of issues emanating from fisheries management advisory committees are resolved within the Department. Sensitive issues having a broad impact or those in which fundamental changes to licensing and allocation principles are proposed are referred to the Minister for decision or further study by means of policy advisory committees.

3.2 Management Advisory Committees

3.2.1 Sectoral and Inter-Regional

These government-industry committees provide advice to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Assistant Deputy Minister for Atlantic Fisheries and Regional Directors-General on matters related to the management of specific species, including the condition of the stocks, allocation of the resource among fleet and gear sectors, methods of harvesting, research needs and methods, licensing policy and economic analysis of fishing enterprises. The thirteen (13) currently active committees include:

- Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee (AGAC)
- Atlantic Halibut Working Group (AHWG)
- Offshore Groundfish Vessel Owners Working Group (OGVOWG)
- Midshore Groundfish Vessel Owners Working Group (MGVOWG)
- Gulf Crab Advisory Committee (GCAC)
- Gulf Shrimp Advisory Committee (GSAC)

- Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee (NSAC)
- Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board (ASAB)
- Squid Advisory Committee (SQAC)
- Offshore Scallop Advisory Committee (OSAC)
- Gulf Small Pelagics Advisory Committee (GSPAC)
- Atlantic Large Pelagics Advisory Committee (ALPAC)
- Atlantic Mackerel Development Committee (AMDC)
- Offshore Clam Advisory Committee (OCAC)

Many of these resource management advisory committees are supported by working groups of department officials who consolidate management, scientific, economic, marketing and other information into draft fishing plans for committee consideration.

Regional and Area

At present thirty (30) distinct regional and sixty-four (64) area-level fisheries management committees have been established for consultations with clients and stakeholders.

There is symmetry between regions as regards advisory committees for groundfish, shrimp, crab and salmon-fisheries which are common to all regions. There is little or no committee symmetry with respect to diadromous species, mammals, capelin and certain small pelagics - nor should there necessarily be.

Representation on these committees is comprised of client groups and stakeholders as noted previously. The subjects of consultation are equally similar though discussions are understandably more localized and focussed.

3.3 Fish Habitat Management and Aquaculture

There are no established client advisory committees for the fish habitat management and aquaculture development programs of Atlantic Fisheries. That is not to suggest the Sector is not engaged in formal consultations with the clients of these programs on a systematic basis. Rather, the absence of equivalent departmental committees reflects the jurisdictional nature of federal and provincial responsibilities for fish habitat and aquaculture, in which the provinces and other federal departments have or share equal jurisdiction over the programs.

The Sector's participation in the formal consultative process is as a bonafide representative on federal-provincial or provincial advisory committees, panels and working groups for fish habitat management and aquaculture development. In the case of fish habitat management, the consultation process is very often set out in legislation and guidelines for screening and evaluating the potential impacts of projects on fish and fish habitat. The Sector's interests in consultation are secured by means of federal-provincial memoranda of understanding for aquaculture and other arrangements for fish habitat management. These instruments meet the Sector's commitment to consultation on a proactive basis, and provide benefits comparable to established departmental resource management advisory committees at much less cost.

The Department's clients for aquaculture include growers and their organization representatives, and provincial governments for specific services; stakeholders include fishermen, other federal departments and levels of government and related industries. The Department's fish habitat clients include fishermen and their organization representatives, and proponents of activities which may potentially affect fish and fish habitat; stakeholders include the general public and various associations affected by proponents' activities, other federal departments and levels of government.

3.4 Aboriginal Fisheries

In the Atlantic Provinces, formal consultation with aboriginal people on fisheries issues occurs at both the individual band council level and at the provincial association or union level. The process is somewhat different in Quebec as will be seen later.

Last year, the Supreme Court of Canada in *R.v. Sparrow* established certain principles for dealing with the constitutionally entrenched right of aboriginal people to fish for food, social and ceremonial purposes. The Court found a fiduciary obligation on the part of the Crown and from this, described a justificatory process that must be applied in determining the validity of regulations related to aboriginal fishing rights. The justificatory process specifies justifiable infringements on the aboriginal right to fish. The requirement for consultation and honourable dealings has been noted by the Court as part of the justificatory process and government's fiduciary obligations.

The Department's response to *Sparrow* has been to establish a national working group to examine the issues and develop an approach for future consultation with aboriginal people.

The Working Group on Consultation, in its analysis of the current consultative process, recognizes that a fundamental change in approach is required in relation to consultation with aboriginal communities. The current approach (band-by-band consultation primarily) is resource intensive and prone to inconsistency for as long as a well-defined program on aboriginal fisheries and economic development remains illusive.

Given the department-wide initiative, the working group has opted not to make specific recommendations on the question of consultation with aboriginal people. The working group believes, however, that decisive action is urgently required on this issue.

Atlantic Provinces Consultations

Aboriginal people are on the membership lists of a number of area, regional, inter-regional and sector-wide fisheries management advisory committees. These include:

Newfoundland Region

- Northern Shrimp Advisory Committee (Inuit)
- Newfoundland Seal Advisory Committee (Inuit)
- Newfoundland Groundfish Advisory Committee (Inuit)
- Zonal Salmon Advisory Committee (Inuit, Conne River)

Gulf Region

- Restigouche Salmon Management Advisory Committee (3 bands)
- Miramichi Salmon Management Advisory Committee (3 bands)
- PEI Salmon Management Advisory Committee (2 bands)
- Northumberland Salmon Management Advisory Committee (2 bands)
- PEI Eel Advisory Committee (2 bands)

Scotia-Fundy

- SWNB Salmon Management Advisory Committee (3 bands)
- SWNB Eel Advisory Committee (1 band)

- SWNB Shad/Gaspereau Advisory Committee (1 Band)
- ENS Zonal Salmon Management Advisory Committee (2 bands)

Quebec Consultations

In northern Quebec, formal consultation is undertaken in accordance with the terms as set out in the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. A well-defined structure exists in which committees under the Agreement have an advisory function to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans on matters which the Minister has jurisdiction.

In implementing its mandate, and more specifically in relation to the management of the Nunavik belugas, the Quebec Region has developed a "cooperative" approach with native people which is intensive and structured, and built around achieving consensus and cooperation in the development and implementation of resource management and conservation measures.

The consultation process in southern Quebec, such as involving the Montagnais and the Attikamek, is more of an ad hoc nature and reactive to issues. A more formal or institutionalized approach to consultation is dependent on the outcome of existing claims negotiations. This is not the case in consultations with the Restigouche Micmac Band at Cross Point in regards to the management of the salmon fishery. While a claims agreement does not exist, a federal-provincial-band committee has met annually on a formal basis since the early 1980's to develop an agreement allowing band members access to the Restigouche River salmon fishery.

3.5 Special Advisory Committees

The principal committees for Atlantic fisheries issues include: the Federal-Provincial Atlantic Fisheries Committee (FPAFC), the Atlantic Council of Fisheries Ministers (ACFM) and the Atlantic Regional Council (ARC).

An examination of the structure and operations of the FPAFC and the ACFM is beyond the scope of this review.

4.0 Review of Selected Consultative and Advisory Committees

4.1 Atlantic Regional Council

4.1.1 Mandate and Organization

The Atlantic Regional Council was established in August of 1985 by the then Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Honourable John Fraser, and represented an integral component of the Progressive Conservative Party's election platform in the 1984 federal election.

The mandate of the Council is to provide a broad forum for discussions on a wide array of policy issues affecting the fishing industry, and advice on those issues to the Minister and senior executives of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Council's mandate has not changed since its inception. Council membership was to act and deliberate in a non-partisan fashion.

The Council was initially staffed with a total of eighteen members (now twenty-two) appointed by the Minister with a balanced representation of fishermen and processor interests from the five eastern provinces. Representatives include large and small fish processing companies, fishermen's unions and associations, and commercial, native and recreational interests. Provincial governments are not represented. Departmental officials attend on a regular basis to present background explanations on issues for discussion. The positions of chairman and vice-chairman are voted by the members themselves.

The operations of the Council are funded from the Department's budget and include travel and living expenditures and per diem for non-salaried members. A secretariat is maintained by the Department consisting of a liaison officer whose primary responsibility includes providing administrative support to the Council and the recording of proceedings.

The creation of the Council was meant to provide a forum where broad, cross-cutting policy issues could be discussed directly with fishing industry representatives and where a wide spectrum of industry interests could be brought together to advise the Minister on a continuing basis.

The following criteria were considered at the time the concept of a "regional council" was first studied in the fall of 1984:

- capacity to deal effectively with a broad array of regional and Atlantic-wide issues affecting the industry and fishermen, apart from allocation and harvesting issues;
- structure to parallel the department's regional administration organization;
- direct access to the Minister and senior department personnel, including the department's scientific community, in the regions and at headquarters;
- close working relationship with species advisory committees;
- sensitivity to local and regional concerns;
- quick response times for resolving problems.

4.1.2 Agenda

Council has been active in examining and arriving at positions in respect of a wide array of departmental initiatives and industry issues, and in contributing meaningfully to the development of approaches to both short and long term policy issues.

Council's agenda and work schedule are established both by the members themselves and through referrals from the Minister. Members initiate, on average, approximately two-thirds of the items discussed. The following issues have been debated by Council since its inception:

Major Policy Issues - Domestic

- Factory Freezer Trawlers
- Amendments to Fisheries Act
- Licensing and Regulations
- Overfishing
- Quality Improvement Program
- Income Stabilization

Major Policy Issues - International

- Overfishing
- NAFO Structure
- Canada/U.S. and Canada/France
- U.S. Countervail Action
- Port Access
- Foreign Investment in Fishery

- Consultative Process
- Underutilized Species
- Direct Sales
- Short/Long-Term Vessel Charters
- Seals-Parasite Infestation
- Offshore EA Review
- Resource Sharing Arrangements
- Management of Northern Cod
- Aquaculture
- Vessel Replacement Guidelines
- Overcapacity in Groundfish Sector
- Observer Program
- Government Restraint and Department Cutbacks
- Native Fisheries

- Canada/U.S. Free Trade
- Catch Transshipments

Government Initiatives

- Forget Commission of Inquiry on Unemployment Insurance
- Malouf Royal Commission on Seals and Sealing
- Regulatory Reform
- Cost Recovery/User Pay
- Report of Nielsen Task Force
- Northern Cod Task Force

By agreement, members are not polled individually and their position recorded when issues are debated and advice tendered. Discussions and reporting are "depersonalized", in line with the agreed upon practice of not bridging one's vested interests off council with those on council. Council chairmen, to their credit, have steadfastly reaffirmed and maintained this practice. More recently, however, some council members have been inclined to focus their attention on issues of a local or specialized nature; this has hampered the operation of the council as a whole.

Council has occasionally lamented the number and types of issues debated at meetings. In the early years, it was not uncommon for Council to examine upwards of ten distinct issues over a two-day period. This imposed understandable time constraints on members in which to fully grasp the implications of the issues both on the industry and on individuals at large, and strike a well-reasoned position for the Minister's consideration. Of late, however, points of discussions have been limited to a few items, thereby enabling members to more fully explore the symptoms and factors at play, and weigh the impacts of their recommendations. It goes without saying, however, that the issues debated by Council have included the dominant issues of the day, for which no easy solutions exist.

The types of issues debated have frequently crossed the strict "policy" dimension to include discussions of "non-policy" issues such as scientific assessment of stocks, observer program cost recovery, consultative process, and controlling overfishing. There is a pronounced view amongst some members of Council that issues such as these transcend the Council's mandate and enter the realm of "fisheries programming". It is acknowledged by Council that departmental officials are better skilled and qualified to tackle issues of this kind, where more appropriate consultative mechanisms exists. Generally speaking, Council has welcomed the opportunity to examine and debate "non policy" issues and has responded in a reasoned manner after receiving appropriate briefings from officials.

4.1.3 Strengths and Shortcomings

The following assessment of Council's strengths and weaknesses is derived from readings of reports and correspondence of Council proceedings since its inception.

Strengths

- Most members bring a vast amount of knowledge and experience to Council and appear to have the required degree of aptitude for engaging in constructive debate on difficult and sensitive issues. This ensures that issues are thoughtfully considered and ministerial advice balanced.
- Representation on Council is broad and cross-sectoral. This fosters understanding of the full dimensions of issues under discussion, ensures that client impacts are factored into advice, and maintains public confidence in Council.
- The vested interests of members have for the most part been "left at the door" when debating issues and developing positions. This prevents distortion of the issues, reduces member influence around the table of discussion, and contributes to the "non-partisan" feature of Council required by the Minister and Department. (This feature, as noted previously, has been abused on occasion by some Council members).
- Council's direct reporting relationship to the Minister and access to ministerial staff suggests that opportunity exists to influence a particular course of action or to shape

ministerial thinking in response to the issues or crises of the day. This motivates Council and encourages constructive debate.

- The acquisition of non-partisan, strategic advice from experienced and respected representatives of the fishing industry fills an important need in the development of new programs and provides for measured responses where such advice is critical to the success of departmental efforts and credibility with the industry.

Shortcomings

- Council has expressed occasional concern that the "open door" policy of access to the Minister has been sporadic, leaving Council out of touch with the Minister's agenda and without the appropriate level of awareness of the "political sensitivities" of major policy initiatives. Council is equally concerned that ARC not degenerate into "just another advisory committee". (In April of 1988, the then Minister undertook to ensure that a member of his staff would always be present at Council meetings, and re-affirmed his commitment to meet with Council as often as possible, and with the Chair as often as required).
- Frequent non-attendance at meetings by some members of Council is an issue which has pre-occupied successive chairmen of late. Native representation has been largely absent since the inception of the ARC, even on the limited number of occasions when issues of importance to natives were discussed. There is no representation on Council from the aquaculture industry. The apparent indifference to Council shown by the appointed native representatives may be the result of a broader level of dissatisfaction with the thrusts of the federal government's agenda relative to native issues.
- The availability to Council of non-departmental experts in such fields as natural resource economics, regional economic development, sociology and marine transportation to provide a different perspective on very specialized issues has not been seriously pursued in the past. Council is left to weigh the value of policy proposals based largely on information compiled, forwarded and argued by officials. For some issues, this may not be conducive to either informed discussion of complex questions or analysis of important policy implications.

- There is no direct evidence that Council has fostered and maintained a close working relationship with special advisory committees as intended. Linkages exist because some members of Council are also representatives on some advisory committees (giving rise to an unavoidable appearance of bias on Council). The nature and purpose of Council's relationship with committees has not been formally set out.

4.1.4 Revitalizing the Council

The continuing role of the ARC should remain focussed on providing short and long term policy advice to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans. Council is adept at articulating its position on difficult issues and prides itself on responding to the challenges it is handed in a professional and largely non-partisan manner.

If Council is to continue to perform well, certain improvements seem necessary. These include:

Membership

- The size of Council should be reduced to an essential minimum (10-12 individuals) with representation from the harvesting and processing sectors, the business and academic community, native people and the aquaculture industry.
- Greater attention should be paid to ensuring that members make every attempt to attend council meetings. Members who are absent, without just cause, for a specified number of meetings should be excused from council.
- Council, and not the Department, should take the initiative of preparing a short list of perspective new members for the Minister's consideration. Similarly, the chairman should be consulted when appointments are reviewed.
- There is some urgency in dealing with the unexplained absence of effective representation from aboriginal peoples on Council.

- The Minister's delegate to meetings of Council should be the Chief of Staff; the departmental senior executive should be the Assistant Deputy Minister, Atlantic Fisheries.

Participation

- Members should be encouraged to observe and monitor first-hand departmental activities for which Council has been or is likely to become associated with in a policy context. Activities could include attendance at important advisory committee and public meetings, air surveillance flights and sea patrols, licence appeal hearings, visits, attendance at symposiums and workshops.

External Points of View

- Council's consideration of sensitive issues and its provision of advice on the implications of inter-departmental or government-wide initiatives should be supplemented by presentations from officials or representatives of the major parties concerned (including the private sector) at the request of the Chairman.

4.1.5 Conclusions

The Atlantic Regional Council is a unique policy think-tank for the referral and analysis of complex and controversial issues, the outcomes of which benefit the Minister, the Department and the fishing industry.

Council has responded generally well to its important mandate and is suitably positioned to continue in this regard with some modifications. **From a structural perspective, the size of Council should be streamlined, the issue of native and aquaculture representation must be addressed, and a more proactive stance should be adopted on the questions of attendance and appointments. From an operational standpoint, there is value in encouraging members to observe departmental activities first-hand, in enlarging Council's exposure to non-departmental experts on selected issues, and in defining Council's relationship to departmental resource management advisory committees.**

4.2 Gulf of St. Lawrence Groundfish

4.2.1 Description of Consultative Process and Current Structure

Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee

The Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee was established in 1982, following the creation of the Gulf Region in 1980, for the purpose of advising the DFO on matters pertaining to the management of the groundfish fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

The Committee is chaired on an "alternate year" basis by the Regional Director General, Gulf and Quebec Regions and is comprised of representatives from DFO, the Provinces, fishermen's and processor's associations.

The Committee meets once a year in the fall, prior to the AGAC meeting. In addition, special meetings of the Committee may be held to deal with specific issues.

Gulf Groundfish ITQ Management Committee

An ITQ Management Committee was established in 1989 when a Gulf-wide Groundfish Enterprise Allocation program was established on a one-year trial basis for mobile gear vessels less than 65' LOA. A ten-year ITQ program has since been approved.

The Committee is chaired on an "alternate year" basis by the Regional Director, Fisheries and Habitat Management, Gulf and Quebec Regions, or their designates. The Committee meets on an as required basis.

Special Meetings - Southern Gulf (4T) based licence holders - Mobile Gear less than 50'

In addition to the aforementioned committees, the Gulf and Quebec Regions have, since 1989, held special meetings with representatives of two inshore fleets based in 4T: MG<45' LOA and MG 45'-49' LOA.

The purpose of these meetings is to advise DFO on recommendations for a groundfish management plan for each fleet with a particular emphasis on 4T cod. Issues discussed include quotas, seasons, trip limits, weekly limits, by-catch reserves, and transfers from the fixed gear sector.

The meetings are attended by DFO staff of the Gulf, Quebec and Scotia-Fundy Regions, representatives of fishermen and the provinces (N.B., N.S., P.E.I. and Quebec).

Committee recommendations serve as input to the Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee. It is the intent of DFO to discontinue these special meetings once an overall long term management strategy is developed for these two fleets.

Gulf Region Area Groundfish Advisory Committees

Gulf Region Area Advisory Committees for eastern New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Gulf shore of Nova Scotia, and western Newfoundland and southern Labrador were established in 1982 to allow for local area input to the Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee.

The committees are chaired by the local Area Manager or his designate and are made up of local representatives of DFO, fishermen and processors as well as the affected province.

The committees meet once a year, in the fall, prior to the Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee. In addition, special meetings of the committees may be held to deal with specific issues.

Western Newfoundland Winter Fishery Review Committee

This committee was established in 1985 to deal with the orderly harvesting of cod in areas 4R3Pn during the January to April period.

The chairman of the committee is appointed on a yearly basis by the Director General, Fisheries and Habitat Management, Gulf Region. The committee meets in late fall/early winter prior to the opening of the winter cod fishery. Members of the committee include DFO Gulf Region staff, Province of Newfoundland, and fishermen's and processors' representatives from Newfoundland and Labrador.

Quebec Region Groundfish Advisory Committee

The Quebec Region Groundfish Advisory Committee was established in 1984 and provides input to the AGAC process through the Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee. The Committee is chaired by DFO and is made up of representatives of fishermen, processors and the Provinces. Meetings are held once a year or on a more frequent basis as required.

4.2.2 Linkages to Decision-Making Process

Introduction

The following describes the essential elements requiring decisions and the decision-making process relative to the Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan and, in more specific terms, for the management of the Gulf of St. Lawrence groundfish fisheries which are jointly managed by the Gulf and Quebec Regions.

All major decisions concerning the Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan are made by the Minister based on Atlantic-wide consultations (AGAC). However, some decisions, of a more local nature, are made at the regional level once the Plan is announced.

Scientific Advice

The management of the Canadian Atlantic groundfish fishery consists largely of controls on the levels of harvesting based on the FO.1 harvesting strategy. Recommended levels of harvesting (TAC's) for individual species/stocks are derived based on scientific advice provided by the Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee (CAFSAC). For transboundary stocks outside the Canadian zone, scientific advice is provided by the Scientific Council of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO). These scientific committees provide, inter alia, scientific assessments of the state of the various groundfish stocks and recommended catch levels.

Management Decisions

Level of TAC

As a general rule for most stocks and species, the decision on the level of TAC is based strictly and solely on scientific advice. Notwithstanding, there are situations where sudden and/or dramatic declines in a stock results in a need to strike a balance between the optimum rate of stock rebuilding and the associated negative socio-economic impacts of various harvesting scenarios.

Allocation of Quotas

The allocation of groundfish quotas amongst the various user groups is more often than not at the center of discussion during the consultation process.

The limited resource must be allocated to two gear sectors, fixed gear and mobile gear, and four major fleet sectors: offshore (>100'), middle distance (65'-100'), and two inshore sectors less than 65'. These user groups are based throughout the five eastern provinces and are further subdivided within these vessel length categories.

Other Management Measures

In addition to the setting of TAC's and allocation of quotas, the management of the groundfish fishery involves a broad range of other management measures and issues that require management decisions. Some of these measures include setting of seasons, access rules to various stocks, licensing issues, fleet rationalization, and conservation and enforcement-oriented measures.

Decision-Making

The decision-making process for Atlantic groundfish follows that for most other Atlantic-wide fishing plans in that decisions are taken following extensive government-industry consultations with complementary in-house analysis and discussions.

Many groundfish management issues do not have Atlantic-wide implications and as such, are discussed only at the regional and inter-regional levels.

The following briefly summarizes the decision-making process arising from regional and sector-wide consultations.

- Step I • Regional government-industry consultations.
- Step II • Atlantic-wide issues, if any, are referred to AGAC
• Regional issues and committee recommendations are referred to DFO regional staff for review and analysis.
- Step III • Regional recommendations on regional issues are referred to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Atlantic Fisheries for review and incorporation in the Atlantic groundfish plan or, in the alternative, to the AGAC Working Group for review and analysis of potential Atlantic-wide implications and for incorporation in the Atlantic groundfish plan.
- Step IV • Sensitive issues are reviewed by the Atlantic Directors General Committee and/or by Atlantic Fisheries, Ottawa as required.
- Step V • AGAC Working Group develops a draft management plan, including multiple scenarios as required, based on regional consultations and directives from the Atlantic Directors General Committee.
• Chairman of the AGAC approves "tabling" of the draft plan at the fall AGAC meeting.
- Step VI • Draft management plan is tabled at AGAC.
- Step VII • AGAC Working Group amends the draft management plan as required based on AGAC consultations and directives from concerned departmental senior executives.
- Step VIII • Amended draft plan and sensitive issues are referred to the FPAFC.

- Draft plan is reviewed by the ACFM.
- Draft plan is reviewed by the Minister in consultation with federal colleagues.

Step IX • Minister announces the Plan

4.3 Scotia-Fundy Scallop

4.3.1 Background: Bay of Fundy Scallops

Scallop beds in the Bay of Fundy have been prosecuted commercially since the late 1880's. Scallop stocks off Digby, Nova Scotia, supported almost all the fishing effort by the Bay of Fundy fleet until the late 1970's. High variability in stock recruitment and expanded fishing effort have contributed to great fluctuations in catch levels over the years.

In 1972, limited entry was introduced in the Bay of Fundy as a conservation measure and as a means of controlling harvesting capacity. Fleet expansion continued as a number of vessel owners provided sufficient evidence to the Department of historical effort in the fishery. During the late 1970's, the expanding fishing capacity of the Bay of Fundy fleet was sustained by the exploitation of further grounds, Browns Bank, then German/Lurcher, then the Brier Island area. In 1976, the Inshore Scallop Advisory Committee was formed. Almost concurrently, a good recruitment pulse appeared on the traditional Digby scallop beds, starting in 1981. Before too long, the fleet with its excessive capacity had difficulty maintaining high catch levels because the stocks of the distant grounds had become depleted and the traditional ones were decreasing rapidly.

In 1980, a seven-mile zone extending from the New Brunswick coast was declared. This zone effectively prevented the "seven-mile" fleet from gaining access to the scallop stocks traditionally fished by the Bay of Fundy fleet.

Following a peak in productivity for the Bay of Fundy stocks in 1981-1983, fishery performance, both in terms of catches and catch rates, decreased steadily as no appreciable stock replenishment took place. In the summers of 1985 and 1986, vessels of the Bay of Fundy fleet violated regulatory and quota restrictions used to control fishing effort on

Georges Bank. Relations between the offshore and inshore fleets became inflamed. Following a series of inter-fleet meetings and seminars, hosted by DFO, an agreement was negotiated in October 1986. The agreement called for the permanent separation of the two fleets and a phasing out of the inshore effort on Georges Bank. The conditions of the October 1986 agreement required the Bay of Fundy fleet to adopt effective restoration and conservation strategies if the scallop resource was to sustain an economically viable industry. Furthermore, the agreement included the expansion of the coastal New Brunswick fishing district from seven miles to the mid-Bay of Fundy and the cancellation of inactive scallop licences.

4.3.2 Current Structure

The Inshore Scallop Advisory Committee (ISAC) is a regional advisory committee reporting to the Regional Director General. It is supported by a working group of DFO officers who consolidate scientific, economic, marketing and other information into draft fishing plans for the committee's consideration. Sub-committee and working groups can be established to address specific concerns.

The committee chairmanship is held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman can be appointed at the discretion of Committee members. The composition of the Committee membership reflects the structure and nature of the inshore scallop fishery. The membership is comprised of representatives of fishermen's associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO. Representatives of the inshore scallop fishermen are selected through a nomination process by licensed inshore scallop fishermen and conducted by DFO.

4.3.3 Description of Consultative Process

The Inshore Scallop Advisory Committee provides input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the inshore scallop resource. The Committee serves as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Inshore Scallop Management Plan.

The Committee provides recommendations and advice on regional policy issues, annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear

restrictions. It makes recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies that may affect existing management measures. The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

4.3.4 Linkages to Decision-Making Process

ISAC serves as the preeminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Inshore Scallop Fishing Plan. DFO officials bring current biological, economical and marketing information to the meeting. A review is conducted of the past year's fishing plan and activity. Regulatory measures are discussed and changes may be recommended. Long term management strategies are discussed such as fishing seasons, closed areas, size limitations, gear restrictions and changes to licensing policy. The committee functions on the basis of consensus and once consensus is reached on the above topics, this information is given to a DFO internal working group who prepare a draft fishing management plan. This draft plan is then presented to the Regional Director-General for approval. Once approved by the Regional Director-General, the plan is announced through a News Release and direct notification is sent to current licence holders.

4.4 Gulf of St. Lawrence Snow Crab

4.4.1 Background: Snow Crabs in the Gulf of St. Lawrence

The harvesting of snow crabs in the Atlantic dates from 1960, the year in which the first landings of crab in Quebec's Gaspé region were recorded. In the early sixties, a number of processing plants in northern New Brunswick began processing the crabs brought in by local groundfish druggers. They produced a good quality product, but the fishery did not develop and, until 1966, crab landings were considered an incidental catch in the groundfisheries and only a few thousand tons were landed each year.

In 1966, the Province of New Brunswick began an experimental project to study ways of capturing and processing snow crab for commercial purposes and to explore new fishing grounds with an eye to future activity. A directed trap fishery was instituted and exploration vessels located extensive stocks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Fishermen from New Brunswick,

Quebec, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island participated in the development of this fishery in the late sixties, with 1968 being a particularly good year for expansion. Technical advisers from British Columbia were hired on contract to help solve problems of handling, storage and processing. Other crab processing plants were opened and fish processing plants were modified to process crab.

In March 1969, a conference was held in Fredericton on the development of the Atlantic snow crab fishery, with fishermen, producers, and federal and provincial government representatives in attendance.

Mid-shore Fishery

On November 14, 1973, the Minister of Fisheries announced a new policy on issuing licences that would limit access to certain "fully harvested" fisheries, including the snow crab fishery. The policy statement also provided for the creation of advisory management committees, comprised of fishermen, producers and government representatives, that would determine the conditions of access to the restricted fisheries. Previously, there had been no restriction on access to the crab fishery, although a licence specifically for crab was required.

4.4.2 Evolution of the Consultation Process

The Snow Crab Advisory Committee for the Gulf of St. Lawrence began work in May 1974. The minutes of the first meeting reveal that since 1969, the industry had been asking the government to establish regulations to ensure sound management of the fishery. During subsequent meetings of the Committee, guidelines on managing the fishery were drawn up and their subsequent adoption led to the promulgation of the Atlantic Crab Fishery Regulations. Access to the crab fishery was first limited in 1985.

4.4.3 Current Structure

Since the mid-shore stocks of crab in the Gulf are shared by fishermen from the Quebec and Gulf regions, a single management plan is needed. The consultation process established to produce this management plan therefore requires input from clients in both regions. To that end, two regional consultation committees - one for Quebec and one for the Gulf - were

established to discuss problems at the regional level and to determine each region's position before inter-regional discussions. Representatives of the two regional committees comprise the Gulf Mid-shore Crab Advisory Committee, which discusses the management, economic and scientific elements of the fishery from an inter-regional perspective. Both the regional and inter-regional committees have representatives of fishermen, producers, the provinces and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Each region chairs the Committee in turn, with the Director of Fisheries and Habitat Management for that region acting as chair. Final approval of the management plan, however, is made jointly by the Directors General of the two regions.

4.4.4 Description of the Consultation Process

Examination of the Current Fishery Plan

This involves an analysis of the previous fishing season by the individual parties or groups, followed by the development of proposals for forthcoming consultations. It is at this stage that the various associations consult their members or discuss matters among themselves. The Department turns to a number of resource persons for subject matter advice, such as economists, statisticians, and representatives of protection and legal services.

Development of Scientific Advice

This step involves the Department's Research Branch. Their advice is distributed to all Committee members.

Consultation

This is the consultation process as such, during which each party defends its position and negotiates so as to reach consensus.

Approving and Announcing the Plan

Following the consultation process, and depending on whether a consensus was reached or disagreements still exists, DFO employees prepare a draft management plan including

different options and recommendations on the points of contention. Final decisions are then made jointly by the Directors General of the Gulf and Quebec Regions.

4.4.5 Description of the Information-Analysis and Decision-making Process

Because the Department's primary mandate is to protect the resource, scientific advice is extremely important and serves as the basis for all discussions. Endangering a resource could mean that the Department was failing to comply with its mandate. So discussions regarding the overall mid-shore crab quota or harvesting strategies must be based on solid arguments.

Since the industry does not have the necessary expertise to provide advice, the Department usually relies upon the advice of its own scientific personnel.

The consultations also bear on issues where the industry has a larger role to play, such as the various possible management methods. The implementation of quotas by vessel for the mid-shore crab fleet is a good example. In this case, the Department provided the industry with all the basic information, as well as technical and EDP support, so that fishermen could properly assess all the alternatives and the effects of such a concept. In the end, it was the fishermen themselves who made the decision to accept this management method. Industry representatives with departmental assistance also monitor the evolution of the system and, when necessary, propose modifications.

4.5 Atlantic Salmon

4.5.1 Background

In recent years the management of the Atlantic salmon resource throughout Eastern Canada has evolved into a highly complex process designed to achieve controlled exploitation with a delicate balance among a number of competitive user groups. The authorized user groups include native, commercial and recreational fishermen.

There have been several exercises to focus attention on Atlantic salmon management. These exercises include the Atlantic Salmon Review in 1978, the Government-Industry Atlantic Salmon Seminar in 1979, the Blueprint for the Future of the Atlantic Salmon in 1980, the

discussion paper on Management of the Atlantic Salmon in the 1980s in 1982, the Atlantic Salmon Task Group Report (Muir Report) in 1983, and the Report of the Special Federal/Provincial Atlantic Salmon Working Group in 1986. All of these studies involved consultations with the different user groups.

In November of 1979 the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans announced an intensive program of management and development of the Atlantic salmon resource. It included the establishment of a number of salmon management zones in the four Atlantic provinces, so that management measures could be tailored closely to fit the biological, social and economic profile of each area. An overall salmon strategy was developed in 1980 to deal with dramatic declines in Atlantic salmon.

4.5.2 Current Structure

Atlantic Regional

The strategy also included the announcement of an Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board, an advisory body established by the Minister to advise the federal government on salmon management policy and programs. The Board is comprised of representatives from the commercial, recreational and native fishing groups in the four Atlantic provinces and Quebec and is chaired by the Assistant Deputy Minister, Atlantic Fisheries.

Consultations on salmon management in the Newfoundland Region with commercial fishermen and the FFAW have been ongoing on an informal basis with area and regional meetings for the past several years.

In 1986 the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans announced a plan to develop a recreational fisheries policy in Canada. A Newfoundland Sports Advisory Committee was established which included representation from local conservation groups, salmon anglers, Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association and Provincial Government representatives. The committee was chaired by a senior DFO representative, met annually, and provided recreational users with an opportunity to input into the management of the recreational salmon fishery.

The Atlantic Salmon advisory process was restructured in 1990 with the introduction of zonal management. Fourteen fishing zones were established (1-11 Newfoundland Region), (12-14 Gulf Region). The main objective of zonal management is to provide the user groups with an opportunity to provide more local input into the management process, by recommending options for conservation and management of the Atlantic salmon resource. With the introduction of Zonal Salmon Management Committees in 1990 which included representatives from the recreational groups, there was no longer a need to maintain the Newfoundland and Labrador Sports Advisory Committee.

4.5.3 Description of Regional Consultative Process

The Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee process is structured in the following format:

Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee

In 1991 a Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee was established encompassing all of Newfoundland and Labrador, including the Gulf portion of Western Newfoundland and the Labrador Straits. The Committee includes representation from the FFAW, Salmonid Council of Newfoundland and Labrador, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Provincial Government (Departments of Fisheries and Development & Tourism), native representatives (Labrador Inuit Association, Conne River Micmac Band and the Innu Nation of Labrador). The Committee is chaired by the Regional Director General, Newfoundland Region.

The Committee provides advice on the management of the salmon fishery with respect to regulatory changes, fishing seasons, licencing policies, incidental catch restrictions, native subsistence fishery and enforcement. The Committee meets at least twice per year with the first meeting taking place in the fall to review the previous salmon fishery and to discuss and approve an agenda for the Regional Salmon Advisory Committees. The second meeting occurs in March to review the summary of the four regional salmon meetings and to discuss and finalize management initiatives to be presented at the Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board. The recommendations from this Committee represent a provincial position by the various user groups on salmon management.

Regional Salmon Advisory Committees

Four salmon advisory committees were established in 1991 consisting of salmon fishing zones 1-2; zones 3-8; zones 9-11; and zones 12-14 to support the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee on regional salmon management issues. The committees are structured to include representatives from commercial, recreational and native fishermen along with representatives from conservation groups and provincial government. The Regional Salmon Advisory Committees are chaired by DFO Area Managers.

The Committees provide an opportunity for commercial fishermen, anglers and natives to input into the management process on issues that are common on a regional basis, such as quota management, control and distribution of salmon tags, river management etc. The committees deal with agenda items established by the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee. The Committees meet at least once per year, normally in February. The recommendations from the four regional salmon advisory committees are summarized and presented initially to the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee and then by the Director General, Newfoundland Region to the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee.

Local Salmon Zonal Committees

Local salmon zonal committees were established in 1990 with the introduction of zonal management. The main objective of the local committees is to discuss and review issues of common concern to the local user groups that relate to a particular bay or river. The Committees are structured to include commercial fishermen, anglers, local conservation groups, natives (where applicable), and provincial government representatives. The Committees are chaired by DFO Area Managers. The local committees provide advice on a zonal basis in relation to such issues as the movement of caution signs in river estuaries, closure of rivers, local enhancement projects etc.

The frequency of meetings is determined on a call-up basis to deal with local issues when they arise. No formal meetings are scheduled. The Chairman, in some cases, would have decision-making authority but issues that require policy changes or are more regional in scope are referred to the Regional Salmon Advisory Committees.

4.5.4 Linkages to Information - Analysis and Decision-Making Process

The Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee establishes the process by setting a common agenda for the regional committee meetings. Once the regional consultations are completed, the Staff Officer for salmon chairs a meeting with the four Area Managers to complete a summary of the consultations, which highlights the main concerns and recommendations by the various user groups. In addition to the summary, management initiatives are identified and prepared which include recommendations for the Atlantic Salmon Management Plan.

A meeting of the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee is then held to discuss and review the summary of the regional consultations and proposed management initiatives. This committee normally recommends a comprehensive provincial position on management of the salmon fishery in relation to items that were discussed during the regional consultations for presentation to the Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board.

At the Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board, the Directors General of the Newfoundland, Gulf and Scotia-Fundy Regions provide a detailed review of regional consultations, which are then consolidated by Atlantic Fisheries in Ottawa. This concludes the formal consultation process between the DFO and the various user groups.

Regions are thereafter requested to prepare specific salmon management sub-plans which are incorporated into a draft of the Atlantic Salmon Management Plan. Atlantic Fisheries in Ottawa finalizes the Salmon Management Plan which is submitted to the Minister for approval.

5.0 Scotia-Fundy Industry and Media Views on Improving the Process

In response to a 1990-91 sectoral priority of increasing public acceptance of fisheries management plans, officials of the Scotia-Fundy Region undertook a comprehensive review of the regional consultative process.

Structured interviews were conducted with 144 commercial fishermen, 12 representatives of fishermen's associations and unions, 13 fish processors and 3 members of the media. The

review provides a valuable insight into the perceptions of clients and interested observers in Scotia-Fundy relative to the workings of advisory committees and the communications function in general.

Fishermen on Advisory Committees

- Decisions are often made by the Department prior to the meetings, and our views are not seriously considered.
- Feedback from the meetings is insufficient.
- There are far too many departmental officials in attendance and others with too much to say.
- Membership should be better represented. They should be elected or nominated by industry based upon a process established by the Department.
- Agendas should be forwarded to representatives at least one month in advance of meetings to allow sufficient time to consult with fishermen.

Fishermen on Communications

- Area personnel need to be better informed of plans, regulations and new initiatives, and the interpretations given to fishermen should be more consistent.
- Other than the advisory committees, there are very few other avenues available to inform the Department of industry's concerns.
- Complex proposals should be communicated in writing, including the proceedings of committee deliberations.
- Resurrect a regular departmental newsletter use AES Marine Weather Channel or local cable network to publicize the Department's business.
- Information distributed must be more timely and written for fishermen to understand.

Representatives on Advisory Committees

- Mandates must be clearly specified.
- Membership must be representative, limited and empowered to speak for those they represent.
- Agendas must be more carefully planned, distributed and notice of meetings properly given.
- Allow industry to lead discussions when specific issues must be resolved; there should be no co-chairing.
- Policy on reimbursement of expenses should be applied more consistently.
- Meetings are dominated by "number crunching" exercises; focus more on addressing management issues.

Representatives on Communications

- Educate fishermen; hold community meetings.
- Employ a variety of means to ensure that fishermen are kept informed.

Processors on Advisory Committees

- Clarify the mandates and terms of reference of the Committees.
- Learn how to conduct meetings effectively; do not allow co-chairing; deal with observers.
- Parties need to be more accountable and representatives must be empowered to speak for their constituents and negotiate when necessary.

- **Table discussion papers to counter the perception that issues are resolved beforehand; state positions clearly.**
- **Prefer that issues be voted upon if membership is improved and voting can be weighted appropriately.**
- **Scheduling requires improvement.**
- **Resolutions adopted during discussion should be re-stated to the membership before the close of the meetings.**

Processors on Communications

- **Employ a variety of means to ensure that processors are kept informed.**
- **Consistent information is the key.**

Media on Advisory Committees

- **Provide ample notice of meetings, list of participants and issues for discussion.**
- **Encourage the participation of plant workers.**
- **Videotape meetings for retention at local offices and loan out to interested parties.**
- **Make greater use of local cable stations to communicate with clients.**

Media on Communications

- **Ensure that information is concise and correct before press releases are issued; produce more backgrounders.**
- **Use editorials to convey departmental positions; produce fisheries programs for local cable network; use AES Marine Weather Channel for announcements.**

- More scientific information should be published.
- Produce more mail-outs and encourage fishermen to reply.

6.0 Comparative Analysis of the Shortcomings of the Current Process

The viewpoints and concerns expressed by industry representatives of the Scotia-Fundy Region were categorized and assessed against those of the Department to establish a relative basis for comparing the degree of similarity of positions and as input into the development of recommendations for improving the consultative process.

The points of view and concerns of the parties were grouped into the following categories: process, representation, reimbursement of expenses, the Department's perceived consultative "culture", and the role of consultation.

On the matter of process (getting to the table and at the table)

Clients Think

- insufficient notification of meetings and lack of material to fully analyze issues and proposals
- insufficient feedback from meetings (this is a communication concern)

Working Group Thinks

- consultative process could be better managed, particularly the pre-consultation stage
- feedback is provided though it is not always timely; industry members are not always properly informed by their representatives

- agenda is overloaded, not jointly elaborated; issues are repetitive; no time to consult with membership
- meetings lack procedural order, are too adversarial; issues are not discussed according to priority
- some representatives of industry are allowed to dominate discussions on particular issues
- industry advice is not seriously sought or considered and decisions are formulated before discussions (leaving no opportunity to influence during the ensuing debate)
- improvements can be made; items proposed for discussion are pertinent to the issues of the day
- chairpersons should receive professional training in communicating, conducting meetings, negotiating
- there is a need to establish and to adhere to strict rules of procedure
- consultative process is a useful forum in support of the decision-making process, hence the desirability of achieving consensus on various issues

On the matter of representation

Clients Think

- criteria should be set out for establishing who may attend as participants (existing and new groups)
- committees are over-represented by departmental officials

Working Group Thinks

- agreed
- guidelines are required governing the attendance and participation of government officials

- the views of some representatives are improperly weighted by the Department (offshore vs. inshore - playing field is not always level)
- do not agree

On the issue of reimbursement (of expenses and honorarium)

Clients Think

- compensation is inadequate, particularly as regards mileage and no payment of honorarium

Working Group Thinks

- there is a need for a consistent and equitable departmental policy (continuing financial restraint noted)

On the question of the Department's consultative "culture"

Clients Think

- process lacks genuine credibility (advice not seriously considered, hidden agenda, manipulative tactics, no feedback, not transparent)
- department does not have their interests at heart; lack of appreciation of our knowledge, experiences and concerns
- major policy and program decisions are rendered after the consultation process through political lobbying and influence, thus seriously compromising the purpose and

Working Group Thinks

- it is committed to consultations with clients
- it receives a good "read" on the cross-sectional advice tendered for consideration
- recognize that post-consultation "scrums" are an inherent element of the decision-making process in government, and that the appeal of this approach is growing; consultative framework should work

objectives of meaningful
consultation

to encourage clients that the
(consultative) process is the most effective
means of exercising influence

On the issue of the role of consultation (previous positions included)

Clients Think

- contentious issues are often times ignored or not thoroughly considered
- mandate of committees unclear
- post-consultation activities undermine the purpose and credibility of consultation (short-circuiting e.g. Seafreeze decision seen as an abuse of due process)

Working Group Thinks

- these issues are often dealt with by a number of different fora or levels of government; sensitive issues should be fully considered
- both parties have misconceptions relative to the mandate and reporting relationship of some committees; improvements are required
- reporting relationship of committees is at times misunderstood, as is the role of officials in the process versus the Minister's discretionary powers on licensing and allocation issues

With respect to process, it is agreed the pre-consultation and consultation stages could be better managed by the Department. This could include providing as much advance notification of the meetings as possible, disseminating papers and reports to participants prior to the meetings, joint input for the development of the agenda, establishing procedural rules for deliberations and providing professional training in the areas of communication, negotiation and consultation.

On the question of representation, there is unanimous agreement that criteria are required to deal effectively with the issue of membership and tenure on the committees. Resolution of this question is absolutely fundamental to reforming the consultative process.

Calls from some industry participants for fairer financial compensation for out-of-pocket expenses and honorarium (per diem) is not achievable within the context of fiscal restraint. Both parties appear to be at least philosophically opposed on the issue of the Department's consultative "culture" (mindset). This is understandable since "culture" has not previously been given much consideration by either party. Industry prefers to think of "culture" in terms of process, linking procedural ineffectiveness to the belief the Department is not committed to meaningful, two-way discussions, and that "lobbying" has become too prevalent a tactic amongst the membership. There is an undeniable need to define in clear terms just what the Department's "culture" is with respect to consultation.

There appears to be an equal measure of difference of opinion on the role of consultation or possibly its purpose and objectives. The industry's view appears to be leaning more towards consultation committees as decision-making bodies (consistent with growing public opinion).

7.0 *Building Effective Consultation - Getting Started*

Developing a strategy for building effective consultation should begin with an evaluation of the organization and the environment within which it operates - its mission, ethics, values and objectives for consultation; its managers - their attitudes and skills; and its clients and stakeholders - their expectations and needs. This is no simple task but a very necessary one.

The outputs of the evaluation would serve to develop a coherent policy on the issue of external consultation and advice - the first requirement in improving the present consultative system.

Without wanting to preempt the nature of the outputs of the suggested evaluation, a general policy should reflect the following themes:

For the Organization

- a corporate culture which values cooperation and outside input into the resolution of conflict and the development of public policy;
- adoption of principles for consultation (refer to Chapter 8);

- a capacity to manage and promote communications and consultation between the Department and its clients and stakeholders (i.e. consultation is a process not an event).

For its Managers

- a leadership style which supports and values consultation and is committed to forging genuine, lasting partnerships with clients and stakeholders (i.e. shared responsibility and ownership of the process and the outcome);
- professional counselling in listening, communicating, negotiating and consensus building.

For its Clients and Stakeholders

- a larger, more participative role in helping the Department design public policy, resolve operational issues, manage the fishery (and possibly run programs).

The Department's strategy should not be centered on more consultation; rather better consultation is what is required. It should encompass changing the traditional roles and responsibilities of the parties; adopting new mechanisms with built-in accountability and independence to determine suitable structures for the process, setting the agenda and ensuring timely responses to issues under study; creating an environment characterized by openness, trust and good faith; and encouraging the parties to learn about one another and from one another.

8.0 *Recommendations for Improving the Consultative Process*

The Working Group believes that a number of fundamental improvements are required to raise the effectiveness of the Sector's consultative process and, at the same time, encourage joint responsibility for the process and its outcomes. Other, departmental initiatives should also be considered as it would be presumptuous to think that maximum benefits from improved sectoral consultation practices can be achieved merely by addressing sectoral shortcomings.

The matrix entitled: Improvements Framework for Consultation Process of Atlantic Fisheries represents the working group's blueprint for building a better process. The information appearing under the header "Institutional Reforms" reflects specific points of interest which the Group feels should be further studied for implementation across the Department. The remaining headers, "Systemic Reforms" and "Structural Reforms", focus on ways and means of improving the consultative process as it exists for the fisheries management program of Atlantic Fisheries.

The Working Group does not feel that changes are required to the consultative process for the fish habitat management and aquaculture development programs of the sector at this time. Furthermore, the Group has deferred considerations on strengthening consultation with aboriginal people to the departmental working group which is specifically addressing this issue.

In closing, it is further recommended that:

- inter-sector discussions be held at the earliest opportunity to develop appropriate instruments for addressing departmental reforms along the lines as proposed. (As a first step, however, it would appear to be more appropriate to seek guidance from the Minister relative to the scope and direction of the review as originally assigned).
- the Atlantic Directors General Committee examine the proposed recommendations for the structural and systemic reformation of the Sector's fisheries management consultative process following a period of "reflection" to allow for a critique of the report by sector officials.
- the Working Group be retained to address additional issues as may be identified by the Atlantic Directors General Committee, including the development of appropriate schedules for the implementation of approved recommendations.
- the assessment of the role of the Atlantic Regional Council be forwarded to the Minister at the earliest opportunity (following the receipt of comments recently solicited from past to present chairmen).

APPENDICES



1. **Improvements Framework for Consultation Process of Atlantic Fisheries**
 2. **Proposed Principles for Formal Consultation**
 3. **Atlantic Fisheries Consultation Committees for Resource Management**
 4. **Draft Guidelines for Dealing with the Media**
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IMPROVEMENTS FRAMEWORK FOR CONSULTATION PROCESS OF ATLANTIC FISHERIES

<u>Areas Requiring Treatment</u>	<u>Desired Result(s)</u>	<u>Treatment Recommended</u>	<u>Who Should Treat</u>
1. <u>Institutional Reforms</u>			
• Secure better client involvement in fisheries management decision-making	• Enhanced client accountability; • Lessen conflict and instances of adversarial positions as a means of building improved partnerships.	• Formal consultation must embrace principles which promote partnerships and enhanced local decision-making in appropriate fisheries. • Departmental positions must not be viewed as decisions during consultation phase.	• ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.
• Ensure a coherent framework for fisheries management decision-making	• Consistency and predictability in the decision-making process.	• Continued adherence to established principles with regular feedback.	• ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.
• Avoidance of perceived political "interference"	• Clients must view the consultative process as the preferred and most effective means of exercising influence.	• Minimize formal post consultation whenever possible. • Acknowledge client contributions in communications strategies.	
• Defining the Department's consultative framework	• Dominant theme is cooperation and outside input into conflict resolution and policy development.	• Develop a comprehensive consultation guide with appropriate principles and then consult extensively with clients.	• ADM P&PP in collaboration with other Sector ADMs.
• Enhanced capacity to plan and manage consultative processes successfully	• Development of strategies and procedures to promote communications and consultation which are inherent constituents of the Department's consultative framework.	• Professional training for managers in negotiation, communication and consultation. • Consider establishing a small "in-house" external consultations management unit within Communications Directorate at HQ.	• ADM P&PP in collaboration with other Sector ADMs.

- Strengthen top management commitment to client-focussed relationships

- Leadership style which supports and values consultation and commitment to developing lasting partnerships with clients.

- Develop matrix of leadership qualities and skills levels against which the performance of managers on consultation initiatives will be assessed.

- Lead role to Corporate Personnel in collaboration with other Sectors (and PSC, CCMD).

2.

Systemic Reforms

- Shared responsibility of the agenda

- Shared responsibility will promote greater accountability of the parties for outcomes and results, and should reduce frequency of "end runs" to the Minister's Office.

- Preliminary agenda to be developed by representatives 3 weeks prior to the meeting.

- Committee chairpersons.

- Shared responsibility will promote a partnership attitude amongst the parties.

- All background papers and reports must be exchanged between the parties within 2 weeks of the meeting (scientific advice pending).

- Deliberations of the committees

- Enhanced accountability of industry representatives relative to their positions and constituents.

- Deliberations will be a matter of public record and communicated accordingly.

- RDGs in collaboration with committee chairpersons.

- Enhanced transparency of proceedings.

- Scheduling of committee meetings

- Enhanced coordination through early notification.

- Annual schedule of consultation meetings to be developed and distributed to committee membership.

- ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with ADM Science and RDGs.

- Minimize absenteeism rate of participants due to conflicting schedules.

- Venues and dates of meetings to be confirmed 3 weeks prior to meetings.

- More informed and comprehensive discussion.

- Reporting of proceedings
 - Written reports should represent the viewpoints and positions of the parties, are a matter of public record and clearly specify what action is to be taken.
 - Reports in both official languages are to be prepared within 21 days of the conclusion of the meeting, approved by the chairperson and distributed to all representatives within 28 days of the conclusion of the meeting.
 - Viewpoints and positions shall be attributed in the record of proceedings.
 - Committee chairpersons.
- Dealing with the media
 - Strengthen understanding of the consultative process and balanced reporting on issues under discussion.
 - Adoption of principles previously developed (draft) by HQ Communications Directorate.
 - ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.
- Chairmanship of committees
 - Ensure openness and fairness, and procedural order in the conduct of deliberations.
 - Role and responsibilities of chairpersons to be defined.
 - Protocol to be established for conduct of meetings.
 - ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.
- Reimbursement of expenses and honorarium
 - Rationalization of the disbursement of public funds.
 - No reimbursement of expenses and honorarium.

3. Structural Reform

- Representation
 - The number of representatives should be the minimum required for balanced understanding of the issues, effective communication and serious pursuit of consensus.
 - Representatives themselves should be duly elected by the organizations they represent, and be empowered to speak for their organizations.
 - Organizations, on the other hand, should be duly incorporated entities with constitutions and official membership lists.

Area Committees

Harvesting Sector

- One representative at table per fleet sector and/or management area.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by organization.

Province

- One representative at table.
- Discretionary term.

Processing Sector

- One representative at table per association to a maximum of two.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by association.

Department

- Up to two officials at table.
- Discretionary term.

Regional Committees

Harvesting Sector

- One representative at table per fleet sector and/or management area.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by organization.

Province

- One representative at table.
- Discretionary term.

Processing Sector

- One representative at table per association to a maximum of two.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by association.

Department

- Up to two officials at table.
- Discretionary term.

Inter-Regional/Sector Committees

Harvesting Sector

- One representative at table per fleet sector and/or management area.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by organization.

Province

- One representative at table.
- Discretionary term.

Processing Sector

- One representative at table per association to a maximum of two.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by association.

Department

- Up to two officials at table.
- Discretionary term.

PROPOSED PRINCIPLES FOR FORMAL CONSULTATION

- Consultation between the DFO and affected clients is intrinsic to effective program implementation, policy development and service. It should be a first thought, not an afterthought.
- Mutual respect for the point of view of members is basic to successful consultation.
- Whenever possible, consultation should involve all representative parties who can contribute to the outcome of consultation.
- The initiative to consult may come from inside the DFO or outside.
- The agenda and timing of consultation should be jointly established. The issues, objectives and constraints should be established at the outset.
- The outcome of consultation should not be pre-determined. Consultation should not be used to communicate decisions already taken.
- A clear, mutual understanding of the objectives of all parties to the consultation is essential from the outset.
- To be effective, consultation must be based on values of openness of purpose and process.
- Members in a consultation should have clear mandates and authority to act on behalf of their membership. Members should have influence over the outcome and a responsibility in implementing any action agreed upon as a result of the consultation.
- All members must have reasonable access to relevant information in both official languages and commit themselves to sharing information.
- Effective consultation is about partnership. Accordingly, members must hold themselves accountable to the consultation process.

July 9, 1990

POLICY ON MEDIA ACCESS TO ATLANTIC FISHERIES
CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

OBJECTIVE

To establish a consistent, Atlantic-wide policy on media access to DFO's fisheries consultative process in the Newfoundland, Scotia-Fundy, Gulf and Quebec regions.

An Atlantic-wide policy on media access to DFO's consultative process should be adopted as soon as possible given the fact that allowing access on certain occasions and denying same in other circumstances will lead to increased frustrations by reporters in our four Atlantic regions.

Several important AGAC meetings are scheduled to take place in the near future. Without a consistent media access policy, DFO risks damaging existing media relationships both in its regions and at the national level. The need to move on adopting this policy is of prime importance. Care must be taken, however, to clearly differentiate meetings which will be open from those which will not and to provide "in camera" opportunities even for those which are open.

CURRENT SITUATION

While Scotia-Fundy advisory committee meetings are open to the media, with certain ground rules, other Atlantic regions do not permit reporters access to similar meetings (i.e., a CP reporter in Halifax can observe an advisory committee meeting while a colleague in Newfoundland is denied the same privilege.)

BACKGROUND

In 1989 and into 1990, Atlantic fisheries issues have garnered increasing media attention as all players involved in the Atlantic fishery continue to react and respond to the current cyclical downturn in certain east-coast fishery sectors.

In particular, as fleet sectors tied up their vessels due to fish shortages or overharvesting capacity, companies closed plants, and government announced TAC reductions in the 1990 groundfish plan and initiatives to respond to the current state of the fishery. Atlantic media including fisheries beat reporters such as Rob Gorham and Jim Meek of the Chronicle Herald, Jim Wellman of Fisherman's Broadcast, Linda Strowbridge of the Sunday Express and Doug Letto of CBC Newfoundland, began to request access to the fisheries consultative meetings in order to be better informed.

Atlantic reporters regularly attended and observed many of the public hearings and fisheries debates that occurred in the latter part of 1989 during the work of the Scotia-Fundy Groundfish Task Force (Haché) and the Independent Panel Review on Northern Cod (Harris).

A frequent complaint heard by both Hache and Harris was that DFO needed to improve communications between fishermen, scientists and resource managers. A much-heard criticism of DFO's consultative process was that information exchanged at closed-door government-industry meetings often did not filter down unbiased to the grassroots level.

DFO's "closed-door policy" on media access to the consultative process has often proved detrimental and resulted in inaccurate or unbalanced news coverage. In many cases, this can be attributed to an 'uninformed' media or to vested interest groups or factions making themselves more readily available to the media. Furthermore, while certain industry representatives often took supportive positions for proposed federal changes in fisheries management during such closed-door meetings when emerging from behind closed doors to an awaiting media, the very same individuals would profit from media attention to lobby their causes, providing inaccurate accounts of deliberations or simply criticizing DFO in a self-serving manner.

The sensationalistic media strategy of certain industry members generally was rewarded with more extensive news coverage than the 'stade' federal reaction of DFO spokespersons who also availed themselves to the media following these meetings. Consequently, DFO's messages to fishermen, plant workers and the general public remained blurred by reporters and editors who sought reaction from DFO rather than complete accounts of the issue. The success of industry representatives in championing their causes via the media was to some extent measurable by how well the media was played outside these meetings. DFO was often forced to a reactive mode in responding to the media.

Industry and public opinion leaders continue to use the media to lobby DFO and the government. To date, DFO's Deputy Minister and ADM, Atlantic have indicated to reporters and to senior DFO management their support for more media access to the consultative process.

In October 1989, the Deputy Minister undertook a successful Atlantic media tour to provide reporters with the 'big picture' on the Atlantic fisheries situation with a view to giving the media complete and consistent information and gaining more balanced news coverage for DFO.

Also last October, DFO allowed media access to the AGAC meeting where CAFSAC provided members of the groundfish industry with its recommendations for the setting of the 1990 TACs. There was no increase in negative media coverage as a result of media observation of this meeting. In fact, media analysis has revealed more positive accounts of issues discussed and, in general, more balanced coverage.

In November 1989, DFO held another AGAC meeting to discuss details of quotas and allocations for the 1990 groundfish plan. When the AGAC chairperson put the question to the floor as to whether media should be allowed access to proceedings, strong objections were voiced mainly by more powerful AGAC members. Media was not present for the vote. The decision to barr the media was negatively viewed by reporters and blame generally cast on DFO rather than industry.

Also last November, Scotia-Fundy RDG adopted an open-door policy on media access to regional advisory committee meetings. Certain ground rules were established and accepted by media. Regional officials who have chaired these meetings report that media is more informed and more inclined to run balanced stories which present the positions of all players including the frequent management dilemmas facing DFO in responding to user needs while protecting the resource.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

In adopting an Atlantic-wide policy on media access to DFO's consultative meetings, the following considerations should be examined:

- a) Media can play an important role in informing the public and fellow reporters in Central Canada on DFO's fisheries management regime and the exhaustive consultative process which allows the Minister to set annual allocations.
- b) DFO and the federal government generally can benefit from a better informed media more inclined to report the whole story and not just bits of information pieced together from interviews with industry and DFO representatives emerging from consultative meetings.
- c) Media would be in a more informed position to deliver clearer, more consistent messages to the grassroots level having been privy to the daily business of managing Atlantic Canada's fisheries resources.
- d) Media access to the consultative process would provide DFO more credibility in the public domain and remove the stigma that there is something to hide -- that 'back-room' deals are struck. DFO would be positioned in the public domain as having nothing to hide: it conducts its affairs business-as-usual,

regardless of media observation. However, provision for "in camera" sessions can be made if and when necessary. These arrangements should be explained to the media prior to the meeting.

- e) Attention should be paid to providing a separate observer area for reporters in order to ensure that less articulate industry members are not made to feel intimidated by media presence and that more aggressive participants do not take advantage of the situation by grandstanding. In addition, the physical distance of media in the observer area will allow regional DFO officials presiding at these meetings not to feel compromised in the decision-making process by media presence. Initial feedback from Scotia-Fundy's Director of Resource Allocation indicates that officials in his region have been able to conduct meetings unhampered by media observers. Strict groundrules enforced by Communications officials present to manage the media at such meetings have ensured uneventful proceedings and as a result have improved media relations.
- f) Consideration should be given to building on the progress Scotia-Fundy region has made in opening up certain regional advisory committee meetings to reporters.

RECOMMENDATIONS

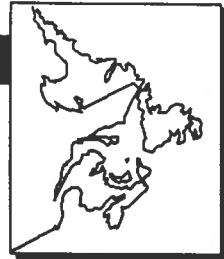
That media be allowed access to DFO's fisheries consultative process on an Atlantic-wide basis under the following conditions:

- a) No electronic recording devices should be permitted within the meeting except prior to and immediately following proceedings in order to allow television reporters opportunities for 'cover shots' and radio reporters 'background noise'. Media will not be permitted active participation during the meeting.
- b) Reporters will be seated in a designated observer area and not at the same table as participants. While DFO may hold a press conference in the meeting room immediately following the discussions, all interviews conducted by the media should take place outside the meeting room.
- c) DFO spokespersons should be appointed by the RDG or ADM, Atlantic prior to the meeting. Briefing material on issues related to the meeting should be provided to DFO spokespersons prior to the meetings in order to ensure appropriate responses are given to media.
- d) A Communications representative should be present at select meetings to ensure that media ground rules are observed and to facilitate orderly media interviews or scrums with a view to respecting the needs of industry representatives and promoting enhanced media relations. Any relevant background material for distribution to the media by DFO representatives should be

approved by the RDG, ADM, Atlantic or DG, Communications prior to the meeting.

A general information backgrounder on the consultative process and the membership of AGAC should be prepared by the HQ Communications Manager, Atlantic and made available at all meetings.

A N N E X E S



- 1. Resource Management Advisory Committees
Atlantic**
 - 2. Resource Management Advisory Committees
Newfoundland**
 - 3. Resource Management Advisory Committees
Quebec**
 - 4. Resource Management Advisory Committees
Scotia-Fundy**
 - 5. Resource Management Advisory Committees
Gulf**
-

ATLANTIC SALMON ADVISORY BOARD

Purpose

The Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board (ASAB) is a focal point for consultations between the federal and provincial governments, commercial and recreational fishermen and Indian communities, on the management of the Atlantic salmon resource. The Board will consider broad policy issues relative to management of Atlantic salmon, such as interceptions, resource allocation, native food fisheries, enhancement, international issues, licensing and public information and education.

Procedure

The Board will function as an advisory body similar to other resource management advisory committees and report to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Atlantic Fisheries Service. It will operate on a consensus basis without formal voting procedures. The Chairman may establish sub-committees to review and assess the implications of policy options being considered. The Board will normally meet twice per year with additional meetings being convened in extraordinary circumstances.

Membership

The Board will be representative of provincial governments, commercial and recreational fishermen, Indian communities and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The Board will be constituted as follows:

- a Chairman, appointed by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans;
- four members representing the Department of Fisheries and Oceans;
- one representative from each of the four provincial governments;
- representation from commercial and recreational fishermen and Indian community interests;
- one scientific advisor to the Board.

The Chairman and members of the Board will be appointed for a two-year duration with provisions for extensions or reappointments at the discretion of the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans or his appointed official. Resource persons will be invited to meetings when required.

Administration

A secretariat reporting to the Chairman, will undertake the administrative functions, including minutes of meetings, arrangements for meeting facilities, and distribution of documentation. Non-governmental members will be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with current federal Treasury Board travel directives.

ATLANTIC LARGE PELAGICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Atlantic Large Pelagics Advisory Committee (ALPAC) is to provide advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management and development of the fisheries for tuna, swordfish, porbeagle shark and other large pelagic species of Atlantic Canada. In doing so it will replace the Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Advisory Committee (ABTAC) and Atlantic Swordfish Advisory Committee (ASAC).

Regional committees, similarly structured, will provide input to the Atlantic committee. Membership for the Atlantic committee will be drawn from those regional committees.

Scope

The Committee will provide the opportunity for consultation between various parties with interest in or jurisdiction over the industry. Advice from the various Regional Advisory Committees will be consolidated by the ALPAC.

The Committee will provide input on annual management plans which may include, but is not restricted to advice on: quota allocations, regulatory amendments, enforcement efforts, licensing policies, seasons, size limits, gear restrictions, the administration of enterprise allocation programs, allocation of foreign quotas and developmental activities.

The Committee will take into consideration biological, marketing and other relevant information when formulating its advice.

Chairmanship

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a Department of Fisheries and Oceans official.

Membership

Membership of the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of provincial governments and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Subcommittees

Ad hoc subcommittees and/or working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Meetings

Meetings will be held at the call of the Chairman and there will be not less than one meeting convened each year. Additional meetings may be necessary as determined by the Committee.

Meetings may be held in any of the participating Regions or at National Headquarters in Ottawa. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

The proceedings of the Advisory Committee meetings will be open to the public and media representatives unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts. Observers will sit away from the table and not take part in discussions unless asked by the Chairman. Numbers of observers may be restricted, at the discretion of the Chairman, in a case of limited space in the meeting facility.

Administration

Fishermen or fishermen's association representatives only, may be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred when attending meetings subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

No formal voting procedures will be entrenched in the conduct of the Committee, rather it will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Summary results of each meeting will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

ATLANTIC GROUND FISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AGAC)

AGAC provides advice on all aspects of groundfish management and in particular, resource allocation i.e. the Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan. The committee is the focal point of federal/provincial, processor/fishermen consultations on matters relating to resource allocation, harvesting and processing including consultation on the Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan, the establishment of Total Allowable Catch (TAC), the allocation of both domestic and foreign quotas and other regulatory measures such as licensing mesh size and gear restrictions.

Advice provided by this committee plays a major role in the determination of resource allocation strategies, plans and programs.

The committee consists of representatives from associations of fishermen, processor associations and federal/provincial governments. The committee is chaired by the ADM, Atlantic Fisheries. The committee usually meets up to three times per year or when issues of major importance to the groundfish industry deem it necessary.

ATLANTIC MACKEREL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Atlantic Mackerel Development Committee (AMDC) will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the means to increase landings and benefits from the available Atlantic mackerel resource which will accrue to the harvesting and processing industries in the four Atlantic Regions.

In developing the necessary initiatives to achieve this objective, consideration will be given to the varying needs of the different fleets involved, as well as the existence of traditional and established markets.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on the management and development of the Atlantic mackerel resource on an Atlantic-wide basis which includes annual and long-term management plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions, gear types, total allowable catch, quotas and introduction of new fishing technologies.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. Membership on the Committee will be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting, processing and marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of provincial governments and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Administration

Changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be discussed and decided by the Committee membership.

Ad-hoc committees or working groups can be established by the Committee membership to review and assess specific policy options and management/development initiatives.

Meetings

Meetings will be held throughout the Atlantic Region on a rotating basis at times and places convenient to the membership. Meetings will be held at the call of the Chairman, providing at least two (2) weeks notice to members. At least one (1) meeting will be held annually.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses. These expenses will be limited to those set out in Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed to members by the Department within two (2) weeks following the meeting.

Public and Media Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic, management and development information for the Committee's consideration.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible. Only Committee members or designated alternatives may sit at the table and join in discussions. Observers must sit away from the table and refrain from entering into discussions of the Committee.

PROPOSAL

OFFSHORE GROUND FISH VESSEL OWNERS WORKING GROUP

Purpose

- To discuss management and licensing issues relevant to the Atlantic offshore groundfish fishery.
- To recommend the development and refinement of administrative guidelines for the Offshore Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Program.

Chairmanship

- Joint (DFO Director of Resource Allocation and industry representative)

Membership

- Two Co-Chairmen and one representative from each enterprise participating in the Offshore Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Program.

Other Participants

- Observers from member offshore enterprises and departmental officials as required.

Scheduling of Meetings

- Prior to Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee (AGAC) meetings to discuss and formulate positions concerning potential AGAC issues;
- To be held once a year to discuss the operational guidelines of the Program;
- To be held at the call of the Chair as requested by members.

Process

- Issues to be discussed may be proposed by OGVO members, the two Co-Chairmen and departmental officials;
- Minutes are prepared by the DFO secretariat, circulated to members for comment, and approved at the next meeting.

Meeting Locations

- Alternated between the four Atlantic regions.

Language

- Discussions take place in both official languages without simultaneous translation;
- Documentation is tabled and reported in both official languages.

Financial Costs

- Industry travel expenses are paid by individual members unless approved by DFO.

PROPOSAL

MIDSHORE GROUND FISH VESSEL OWNERS WORKING GROUP

Purpose

- To discuss management and licensing issues relevant to the Atlantic midshore (65'-100') mobile and fixed gear groundfish fishery.
- To recommend the development and refinement of administrative guidelines for the Midshore Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Program.

Chairmanship

- Joint (DFO Director of Resource Allocation and industry representative).

Membership

- Two Co-Chairmen and one representative from each enterprise participating in the Midshore Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Program.

Other Participants

- Observers from member midshore enterprises and departmental officials as required.

Scheduling of Meetings

- Prior to Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee (AGAC) meetings to discuss and formulate positions concerning potential AGAC issues;
- To be held once a year to discuss the operational guidelines of the Program;
- To be held at the call of the Chair as requested by members.

Process

- Issues to be discussed may be proposed by MIGVO members, the two Co-Chairmen and departmental officials;
- Minutes are prepared by the DFO secretariat, circulated to membership for comment, and approved at the next meeting.

Meeting Locations

- Alternated between the four Atlantic regions.

Language

- Discussions take place in both official languages without simultaneous translation;
- Documentation is tabled and reported in both official languages.

Financial Costs

- Industry travel expenses are paid by individual members.

NORTHERN SHRIMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Terms of reference have not as yet been developed for this Advisory Committee.

Membership

- Chairman, named by the ADM, Atlantic Fisheries
- 16 licence holders
- Provincial government representatives: Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, Quebec, Prince Edward Island.
- DFO Advisors: Science, Marketing, Economics
- DFO Regional Representatives: Newfoundland, Scotia-Fundy, Gulf, Quebec, and Western Regions.

ATLANTIC HALIBUT WORKING GROUP

Purpose

The Atlantic Halibut Working Group was established in 1987 to provide advice on research activities for the management of the Atlantic halibut resource, and to develop management measures for the fishery for discussion by the Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee.

Chairmanship

The Working Group will be chaired by an official of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Membership

Membership of the Committee shall be composed of fishermen's representatives, independent vessel owners, companies (licence holders), representatives of provincial governments and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Meetings

The Working Group meets annually prior to the meeting of the Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee. Additional meetings may be scheduled at the request of the chairman.

Access by Media

The deliberations of the Working Group are not open to the media.

Administration

No formal voting procedures will be entrenched in the conduct of the Working Group's business, rather it will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Secretariat functions are the responsibility of the Department. Summary results of the meetings are prepared and distributed by the Department.

NEWFOUNDLAND GROUND FISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Newfoundland Region Groundfish Advisory Committee provides advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management of groundfish stocks under the jurisdiction of the Newfoundland Region. The advice presented in this form is, in turn, presented to the Atlantic Groundfish Advisory Committee.

Scope

The Committee provides advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, quota allocations and the development of non-traditional groundfish resources.

Structure

Changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided in consultation with the Committee members.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management issues.

Membership

The Chairmanship of the Committee will be held by a DFO official. The membership of the Committee is made up of representatives from fishermen's associations, processors, other industry representatives, unions, provincial government and individual fishermen. Committee membership is reviewed on a two-year basis.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Newfoundland Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and locations convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by DFO.

Public Access

Unless a majority of the Committee members say otherwise prior to the commencement of the meeting, the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the public and media representatives.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairperson notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

NORTHERN SHRIMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Terms of reference have not as yet been developed for this Advisory Committee.

Membership

- Chairman, named by the ADM, Atlantic Fisheries
- 16 licence holders
- Provincial government representatives: Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Northwest Territories, Quebec, Prince Edward Island.
- DFO Advisors: Science, Marketing, Economics
- DFO Regional Representatives: Newfoundland, Scotia-Fundy, Gulf, Quebec, and Western Regions.

NEWFOUNDLAND (AREA) SCALLOP ADVISORY COMMITTEE (3Ps)

Purpose

The NAFO Division 3Ps Scallop Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management of the scallop fishery in the Division.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, fishing seasons, quota allocations, licensing policies, regulatory measures, size limitations, by-catch provisions, trip limits, gear restrictions and recreational fishing.

In providing advice the Committee will take into account the available biological advice, marketing information and other pertinent information.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided in consultation with the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management issues.

Membership

The chairmanship of the Committee will be held by a DFO official. The membership of the Committee will be made up of two representatives of the NFFAWU, one representative of the Fisheries Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, one representative of processors, eight fishermen's representatives, two representatives of the provincial government, and up to four representatives of the Department.

The composition of the Committee will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery. A membership review will be conducted every two years.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and locations convenient to the membership. Meetings will be at the call of the chair.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses. Reimbursement will be in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis whenever possible.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management information for the Committee's consideration.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairperson notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

NEWFOUNDLAND LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Newfoundland Region Lobster Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management of the lobster fishery in the Region.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing seasons, licensing policies, regulatory measures, size limitations, and gear restrictions.

In providing advice the Committee will take into account the available biological advice, marketing requirements and other pertinent information.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided in consultation with the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management issues.

Membership

The chairmanship of the Committee will be held by a DFO official. The membership of the Committee will be made up of a representative of the NFFAWU, three representatives of the processing sector in 3K, 3L, and 3Ps, ten fishermen's representatives, a representative of the provincial government and up to four representatives of the Department.

The composition of the Committee will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery. A membership review will be conducted every two years.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Newfoundland Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and locations convenient to the membership. Meetings will be at the call of the chair.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses. Reimbursement will be in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis whenever possible.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Group

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management information for the Committee's consideration.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairperson notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

NEWFOUNDLAND (AREA) SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEES (4)

Purpose

The Area Salmon Advisory Committees are sub-committees of the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee. The committees will provide input and advice on a local basis to the Newfoundland Salmon Advisory Committee. Four committees have been established in Newfoundland and Labrador; three in the Newfoundland Region and one in the Gulf portion encompassing the West Coast of Newfoundland and the Labrador Straits.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on a local basis on salmon management issues, recommend regulatory changes, fishing season, licensing policies, by-catch regulations, subsistence fishing by natives, gear restrictions and enforcement. The Committees will consider biological and other information that affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Changes to the structure and administration of each Committee will be decided by the committee membership.

Ad hoc sub-committees will be established by fishing zone on a call up basis to deal with local management issues such as the location of caution signs, river closures etc.

Membership

Each Committee will be chaired by the DFO Area Manager or an alternate as designated by the Chairman.

The membership of the Committees will be comprised of a representative of commercial salmon fishermen, a local NFFAWU representative, a representative of anglers, a representative of local conservation associations, processors and native fishermen, two representatives of the provincial government, and up to three representatives of the Department.

Meetings

Meetings are held at various locations throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. Meetings will be held at times and places which are convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Expenses are normally paid to commercial salmon, recreational and native fishermen subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will deal with established agenda items. The Chairman will try and reach a consensus on each item. No formal voting procedures will be established.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

The proceedings of the Committee meetings will normally be closed to the public and the media, unless agreed upon by a majority of the Committee members.

Number of Meetings

The committees will meet at least once per year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, the Chairman should be notified in advance so an alternate may be nominated.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR ATLANTIC SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Committee is structure to include the Gulf portion of Western Newfoundland and the Labrador Straits, thus providing an opportunity for the various user groups to recommend a joint Newfoundland position on the management of Atlantic salmon. This Committee will review the recommendations from the Regional Advisory Committees and provide input and advice to the Atlantic Salmon Advisory Board.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on salmon management plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policy, by-catch restrictions, native subsistence fishery and enforcement. The Committee will take into consideration biological and marketing information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Regional and Zonal Committees will be established to provide an opportunity for representatives from the local zones to input into the management process.

Membership

The Committee will be chaired by the Director General of the Newfoundland Region or an alternate appointed by the Director General. Membership of the Committee will include a representative of the NFFAWU, a representative of the Salmonid Council of Newfoundland and Labrador, representatives of the Innu Nation, the Conne River MicMac Band and the Labrador Inuit Association, a representative of the Atlantic Salmon Federation, a representative of the Fisheries Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, two representatives of the provincial government and up to four representatives of the Department.

Voting Procedures

The Committee's position will be to discuss and review agenda items, the Chairman will consider a consensus of opinion from the membership. There will be no voting procedures established.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

The proceedings of the Committee will normally be closed to the public and the media unless the majority of Committee members object to restricting public access.

DFO Working Group

The Committee will be supported by a departmental working group who will provide scientific, economic and management advice.

Frequency of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice per year, usually in St. John's. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

In the event that a member cannot attend an alternate may be nominated. The Chairman should be notified in advance of the meeting where possible.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

NEWFOUNDLAND REGION SEAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Newfoundland Region Seal Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management of the seal fishery in the Region.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, fishing seasons, quota allocations, licensing policies, regulatory measures and non-traditional uses of the resource.

In providing advice, the Committee will take into account the available biological advice, marketing information and other pertinent information.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided in consultation with the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management issues.

Membership

The Chairmanship of the Committee will be held by a DFO official. The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen's associations, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives and the provincial government.

The composition of the Committee will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery. A membership review will be conducted every two years.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Newfoundland Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and locations convenient to the membership. Meetings will be at the call of the chair.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses. Reimbursement will be in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairperson notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

PROPOSAL

SPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR LABRADOR

Purpose

The Sport Advisory Committee for Labrador provides an opportunity for the various user groups to input and advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on management of the inland fisheries resource.

Scope

The committee will provide advice on management issues such as bag limits, river closures, regulatory changes and enforcement. The committee will consider biological advice as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the committee will be decided by the committee membership.

Membership

The committee will be chaired by the Area Manager or an alternate appointed by the Area Manager.

The membership of the committee will be comprised of three representatives of the Labrador Outfitters Association, three representatives of the Salmonid Council of Newfoundland and Labrador, a representative of the Labrador Metis Association, two representatives of the provincial government, and up to three representatives of the Department.

Meetings

A meeting will be held in Labrador at least once per year at a time and place convenient to the membership. Additional meetings can be held if so required.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be paid to anglers, outfitters and native representatives subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The committee chairman will seek to operate on a consensus basis whenever possible. No formal voting procedures will be established.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

The proceedings of the committee will normally be closed to the public and the media unless the majority of the committee members object to restricting public access.

Attendance

In the event that a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated. The chairman should be notified in advance of the meeting where possible.

NEWFOUNDLAND (AREA) SNOW CRAB ADVISORY COMMITTEES (4)

Purpose

Each Crab Advisory Committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Newfoundland Region in its development of the component of the annual Crab Management Plan for NAFO Divisions 2J, 3K, 3L and 3PS.

Scope

Each Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, fishing seasons, allocations, trap limits, licensing policies, resource development and enforcement.

Each Committee will give consideration to scientific, marketing and social factors as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the terms of reference, structure or administration of the Committees will be decided by the Committee Membership.

Membership

Each Committee will be chaired by a DFO official.

The membership of each Committee will be made up of a representative of the NFFAWU, a representative of the Fisheries Association of Newfoundland and Labrador, a representative of the provincial government and up to six representatives of the Department. The composition of each committee will reflect the structure and nature of the crab fishery for each area.

Meetings

An annual meeting of each committee will be held at the call of the Chair, in St. John's or some other centre on the east coast.

Secretariat

DFO will provide the services of a recording secretary and any other secretarial/clerical services as may be required.

Expenses

Fishermen will be the only members eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses. These will be paid consistent with the Treasury Board Travel Directive.

Voting

No formal voting procedures will be established. Each Committee will operate on a consensus-building basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

The proceedings of each Committee will be open to the public and to the media unless a majority of non-DFO Committee members decide otherwise prior to the commencement of the meeting.

Attendance

Should a member be unable to attend a meeting, an alternate may be nominated and the chairperson will be notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

NEWFOUNDLAND SMALL PELAGICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Newfoundland Region Small Pelagics Advisory Committee will provide advise to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management of the capelin, herring and mackerel fisheries in the Region.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, fishing seasons, quota allocations, licensing policies, regulatory measures, size limitations, by-catch provisions, trip limits, gear restrictions and non-traditional uses of the resource.

In providing advice the Committee will take into account the available biological advice, marketing information and other pertinent information.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided in consultation with the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management issues.

Membership

The chairmanship of the Committee will be held by a DFO official. The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives of fishermen's associations, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial government and the Department.

The composition of the Committee will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery. A membership review will be conducted every two years.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Newfoundland Region. When feasible, at times and locations convenient to the membership. Meetings will be at the call of the chair.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses. Reimbursement will be in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairperson notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

NEWFOUNDLAND LARGE PELAGICS WORKING GROUP

Purpose

The Newfoundland Region Large Pelagics Working Group will provide advise to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the management of the fishery for large pelagic species, particularly Bluefin tuna and swordfish, in the Region.

The Working Group will provide a focus for the development of regional industry views on Atlantic management issues. These views will be presented to the Atlantic Large Pelagic Advisory Committee (ALPAC) for consideration.

Scope

The Working Group will provide advice on annual fishing plans, fishing seasons, quota allocations, licensing policies, regulatory measures, size limitations, by-catch provisions, trip limits, gear restrictions and non-traditional uses of the resource.

In providing advice the Working Group will take into account the available biological advice, marketing information and other pertinent information.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Working Group will be decided in consultation with the Working Group.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management issues.

Membership

The chairmanship of the Working Group will be held by a DFO official. The membership of the Working Group will be made up of representatives from fishermen's associations, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial government and DFO.

The composition of the Working Group will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery. A membership review will be conducted every two years.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Newfoundland Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and locations convenient to the membership. Meetings will be at the call of the chair.

Expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed for fishermen and representatives of fishermen's associations who do not otherwise receive funding for travel expenses. Reimbursement will be in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Working Group shall seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Working Group members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Working Group will be open to the public and to media representatives.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairperson notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

COMITE CONSULTATIF QUEBECOIS DU POISSON DE FOND

Mandat

Le C.C.Q.P.F. est chargé de conseiller le M.P.O. sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du poisson de fond de l'Atlantique.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

1. Pêcheurs

Regroupement des associations des pêcheurs côtiers de la péninsule gaspésienne, Nord de la Gaspésie.

Regroupement des associations des pêcheurs côtiers de la péninsule gaspésienne, Sud de la Gaspésie.

Association des capitaines-propriétaires de la Gaspésie.

Association des pêcheurs de la Basse Côte-Nord.

Regroupement des pêcheurs de la Haute et de la Moyenne Côte-Nord.

Association des pêcheurs-propriétaires des Iles-de-la-Madeleine.

Association des pêcheurs de la MRC Pabok.

Alliance des pêcheurs commerciaux du Québec.

2. Producteurs

Purdel Inc.

Primonor Inc. et Madelipêche

Office canadien du poisson salé

Consortium du poisson salé gaspésien

Société des pêches de Newport

Association québécoise de l'industrie de la pêche

Pêcheries arctiques

3. Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation

4. Gouvernement fédéral

Président

Secrétaire

5. Personnes-ressources du MPO

Services économiques

Direction de la Recherche

Développement

Réglementation

Secteur Côte-Nord

Secteur Gaspésie

Secteur Iles-de-la-Madeleine

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

A moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF QUÉBÉCOIS DES PETITS PÉLAGIQUES

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif québécois des petits pélagiques est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion des petits pélagiques (capelan, hareng et maquereau) des divisions 4RST.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Secrétaire

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs commerciaux du Bas St-Laurent

Regroupement des pêcheurs côtiers de la Gaspésie (Nord)

Regroupement des pêcheurs côtiers de la Gaspésie (Sud) (2)

Regroupement des pêcheurs côtiers de la Haute & Moyenne Côte-Nord

Regroupement des pêcheurs côtiers de la Basse Côte-Nord

Association des pêcheurs-proprétaires des Iles-de-la-Madeleine

Producteurs

AQIP : 5 représentants (2 Gaspésie, 2 Côte-Nord, 1 Iles)

Gouvernement provincial

Personnes-ressources du MPO :

1 économiste

1 représentant Services de protection

3 directeurs de secteur

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF QUÉBÉCOIS DE LA CREVETTE DU GOLFE

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif québécois de la crevette du Golfe est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion de la crevette dans le golfe Saint-Laurent.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs de la Basse Côte-Nord

Association des capitaines propriétaires de la Gaspésie (3)

Association des pêcheurs de la Côte-Nord

Association des pêcheurs de crevette de Matane

Producteurs

Association québécoise de l'industrie de la pêche (3)

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF QUÉBÉCOIS DU CRABE SEMI-HAUTURIER

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif québécois du crabe hauturier est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du crabe des neiges de la zone 12.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs de crabe du Québec (3)

Association des pêcheurs de crabe des Iles-de-la-Madeleine (2)

Association des pêcheurs de la MRC-Pabok (1)

Producteurs

Edmond Gagnon & Fils (Bernard Lacroix)

Crustacés de Gaspé (George Clapperton)

Pêcheries Gagnon & Turbide (Eugène Turbide)

E. Gagnon (Gascons) Ltée

Association québécoise de l'industrie de la pêche (Pierre Picard)

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (1)

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF QUÉBÉCOIS DU CRABE DU NORD-EST DU GOLFE

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif québécois du crabe du Nord-Est du Golfe est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du crabe des neiges dans les zones 13, 14 et 15 (Basse Côte-Nord et CPote ouest de Terre-Neuve).

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

Pêcheurs

Fishermen's Committee Old Fort

Fishermen's Committee St-Paul's River

L'Anse au Clair fisherman

Port-aux-Choix fisherman

Fishermen's Committee La Tabatière

Fishermen's Committee Harrington Harbour

Fishermen's Committee Kegaska

Lower North Shore Fishermen Association

Newfoundland Fishermen and Food Allied Workers Union

Producteurs

Primonor Inc.

Arctic Fisheries Inc.

Bay Shore Group Inc.

H.B. Dawe Shipping Ltd

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Department of Fisheries, Newfoundland

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

A moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF DU CRABE DE L'ESTUAIRE ET DE LA MOYENNE CÔTE-NORD

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif du crabe de l'Estuaire et de la Moyenne Côte-Nord est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du crabe de sneiges dans les zones 16 et 17.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs de Rimouski (2)

Association des pêcheurs de la Haute Côte-Nord (2)

Association des pêcheurs de la Côte-Nord

Association des pêcheurs de Rivière-au-Tonnerre

Association des pêcheurs de la Moyenne Côte-Nord

Association des pêcheurs de Havre Saint-Pierre

Association des pêcheurs d'Aguanish-Natashquan

Regroupement des associations de pêcheurs de la Haute et Moyenne Côte-Nord

Producteurs

Nord-Pêche

Poissonnerie Tremblay Inc.

Fruits de Mer Côte-Nord

Poséidon Inc.

Poissonnerie du Havre 1988 Inc.

Nico-Pêche

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF DES INVERTÉBRÉS DE LA BASSE CÔTE-NORD

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif des invertébrés de la Basse Côte-Nord est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du homard, pétoncle, buccin et autres invertébrés des zones côtières le long de la Basse Côte-Nord.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Lower North Shore Fishermen's Association (2)

Fishermen's Committee Aylomer Sound
Fishermen's Committee Blanc-Sablon
Fishermen's Committee Bradore Bay
Fishermen's Committee Chevery
Fishermen's Committee Harrington Harbour
Fishermen's Committee Kegaska
Fishermen's Committee La Romaine
Fishermen's Committee La Tabatière
Fishermen's Committee Lourdes de Blanc-Sablon
Fishermen's Committee Middle Bay
Fishermen's Committee Mutton Bay
Fishermen's Committee Old Fort Bay
Fishermen's Committee St-Augustin
Fishermen's Committee St-Paul's River
Fishermen's Committee Tête à la Baleine

Producteurs

Arctic Fisheries
Murray & Martin
Bay Shore Group
Primonor Inc.

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITE CONSULTATIF DES INVERTEBRES DE LA HAUTE ET MOYENNE COTE-NORD

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif des invertébrés de la Haute et Moyenne Côte-Nord est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du homard, pétoncle, buccin et autres invertébrés des zones côtières le long de la Haute et Moyenne Côte-Nord et du homard à l'Île d'Anticosti.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs de la Haute Côte-Nord (2)

Association des pêcheurs de la Côte-Nord (2)

Association des pêcheurs de Rivière-au-Tonnerre

Association des pêcheurs de la Moyenne Côte-Nord

Association des pêcheurs de Havre Saint-Pierre (4)

Association des pêcheurs d'Aganish-Natashquan

Regroupement des associations de pêcheurs de la Haute et Moyenne Côte-Nord

Pêcheur de homard de la Gaspésie

Pêcheur de homard des Îles-de-la-Madeleine

Producteurs

Poissonnerie Caron Inc.

Fruits de Mer Côte-Nord

Poséidon Inc.

Poissonnerie du Havre 1988 Inc.

Nico-Pêche Inc.

Coquillages Nordiques

Les Entreprises G.D.R. Dumont Inc.

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

N.B. : Lorsqu'il y a plus d'un représentant pour une association de pêcheur donnée, chacun de ces représentants est responsable d'une espèce en particulier et ne peut alors intervenir que lors des discussions sur cette espèce.

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF DES INVERTÉBRÉS DES ILES-DE-LA-MADELEINE

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif des invertébrés des Iles-de-la-Madeleine est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du homard, pétoncle, buccin et autres invertébrés des zones côtières le long des Iles-de-la-Madeleine.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs propriétaires des I.-M.

Pétoncle (3)
Homard (5)
Buccin (2)
Quahog (2)

Producteurs

Madelimer

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF DES INVERTÉBRÉS DE LA GASPÉSIE

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif des invertébrés de la Gaspésie est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation, la protection et la gestion du homard, pétoncle, buccin et autres invertébrés des zones côtières le long de la Gaspésie.

Portée

Le comité constitue un point de convergence pour les consultations entre le gouvernement fédéral et le gouvernement du Québec, les producteurs et les pêcheurs sur des questions concernant:

- a. les méthodes d'exploitation, incluant le zonage, les engins de pêche et les tailles légales;
- b. les politiques d'émission de permis de pêche applicables aux secteurs et espèces visées;
- c. la compilation des captures et des statistiques économiques;
- d. la commercialisation de ces espèces, incluant le développement de nouveaux produits, l'exportation, le contrôle de la qualité et les études de marché.

Composition

MPO

Président

Pêcheurs

Association des pêcheurs de pétoncle (3)

Association des pêcheurs de l'anse-à-Valleau

Association des pêcheurs de l'anse-à-Brillant

Association des pêcheurs de la Péninsule

Association des pêcheurs de Shigawake

Association des pêcheurs de St-Godefroi

Association des pêcheurs Nouvelle Vague

Alliance des pêcheurs commerciaux du Québec

Producteurs

Association québécoise de l'industrie de la pêche

Pêcheries Malbaie

Coopérative de Carleton

Dégust-Mer

Crustacés de Gaspé

Poissonnerie Le Petit Bateau

Gouvernement provincial

Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec

Administration

Les changements à la structure ou à l'administration du Comité seront discutés et décidés par les membres du Comité.

Des comités ad hoc ou des groupes de travail pourront être établis par les membres du comité afin d'analyser certaines initiatives de gestion ou de développement ou certaines politiques.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira à chaque année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.

Dépenses

Le MPO remboursera les dépenses des pêcheurs ou représentants de pêcheurs selon les normes du Conseil du Trésor.

Procédures de vote

La structure du comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote mais plutôt un mécanisme basé sur le consensus des membres.

Secrétariat

Le MPO assurera les services de secrétariat et préparera, pour distribution, les minutes des réunions.

Accès au public

À moins qu'une majorité des membres ne s'y oppose avant le début de la réunion, celle-ci sera ouverte au public et aux représentants des médias.

COMITÉ CONSULTATIF QUÉBÉCOIS SUR LES CÉTACÉS DU SAINT-LAURENT

Mandat

Le Comité consultatif québécois sur les cétacés du Saint-Laurent est chargé de conseiller le MPO sur les questions concernant la conservation des cétacés du Saint-Laurent et plus particulièrement en relation avec l'industrie d'observation des cétacés. Le Comité doit également veiller à ce que la représentation des besoins des intervenants soit forte, bien documentée et bien articulée.

Portée

Le comité constitue la tribune privilégiée pour les consultations entre le Gouvernement et les intervenants de l'industrie d'observation des baleines (capitaines, propriétaires, naturalistes, organisations touristiques, plaisanciers) sur des questions relatives aux problèmes de conservation, de gestion et de protection, au mode d'opération, à la coordination des activités, au marché et sur les mesures de réglementation.

Composition

Le Comité est composé de 8 représentants de l'industrie soit deux représentants (petits et grands navires ou rive nord et sud) de chaque constituante:

- Propriétaires
- Capitaines
- Naturalistes
- Organisations touristiques
- Plaisanciers

ainsi que d'un représentant du ministère des Pêches et des Océans:

- Gestion de la ressource

Le Comité est présidé par le représentant du MPO.

Administration

- a. Le MPO défraiera les dépenses de voyages encourues par les représentants de l'industrie pour participer aux réunions, selon les normes applicables.
- b. Le Comité se réunit au minimum une fois par année ou lorsque des circonstances spéciales l'exigent.
- c. Les sites des réunions seront déterminés avec les membres, autant que possible dans la région du déroulement des activités d'observation.
- d. Les convocations des réunions devront être faites par écrit et l'ordre du jour soumis à l'avance afin de permettre aux représentants de consulter leurs membres.
- e. La structure du Comité ne prévoit pas de procédures officielles de vote; les décisions seront plutôt prises sur la base d'un consensus.
- f. Le ministère des Pêches et des Océans fournira le service de secrétariat et préparera et diffusera un compte rendu sommaire des réunions.

Personnes-ressources

Le Comité pourra être assisté dans son travail par des personnes-ressources tant du Gouvernement provincial que fédéral ou de l'industrie.

COMITÉ CONJOINT CHASSE, PECHE ET PIEGEAGE

Mandat

Le Comité a été créé pour étudier, administrer et dans certains cas surveiller et régler le régime de chasse, de pêche et de piégeage institué par les dispositions du chapitre 24 de la Convention sur la Baie James du Nord québécois et en conformité avec elles. Le Comité conjoint est un organisme consultatif auprès des gouvernements responsables.

Composition

4 représentants des Inuit
4 représentants des Cris
4 représentants des Naskapis
4 représentants du Gouvernement provincial
4 représentants du Gouvernement fédéral
Secrétariat du CCCPP

Administration

Le Comité conjoint peut établir des règles et adopter des règlements de régie interne, y compris les avis fixant la date et le lieu de ses séances et toute autre question se rapportant à sa propre administration.

Réunions

Le comité se réunira au moins quatre fois l'an.

Dépenses

Chaque partie prend à sa charge les dépenses de ses membres.

Procédures de vote

Toutes les décisions sont prises à la majorité des voix exprimées.

Secrétariat

Un secrétariat composé au plus de trois employés à plein temps est mis à la disposition du Comité et les dépenses sont assurées par le Gouvernement du Québec.

CAPE BRETON SNOW CRAB FISHERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Cape Breton Snow Crab Fishery Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the snow crab resource in Crab Fishing Areas 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee will be chaired by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery on the snow crab fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives from provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in the Eastern Nova Scotia Management Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

This Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

EASTERN NOVA SCOTIA GROUND FISH COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Eastern Nova Scotia Groundfish Committee is a subcommittee of the Scotia-Fundy Groundfish Advisory Committee. The Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the implementation and adjustment to the annual Atlantic Groundfish Management Plan for NAFO Divisions 4Vn and 4VsW.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions, the use of trip limits, gear restrictions and on hailing and enforcement strategies.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

EASTERN NOVA SCOTIA SMALL PELAGICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Eastern Nova Scotia Small Pelagics Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the herring and mackerel fishery resource for NAFO Divisions 4Vn and 4VsW.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures. It will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions, gear restrictions and on inter-season adjustments to the annual fishing plan..

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Eastern Nova Scotia herring and mackerel fisheries.

The membership of the Committee will be made up those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives from the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

EASTERN NOVA SCOTIA SNOW CRAB FISHERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Cape Breton Snow Crab Fishery Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the snow crab resource in Crab Fishing Areas 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee will be chaired by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery on the snow crab fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives from provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in the Eastern Nova Scotia Management Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

This Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

EASTERN NOVA SCOTIA SOFT SHELL CLAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Eastern Nova Scotia Soft Shell Clam Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the softshell clam resource, found in the area between Cape North, Cape Breton and Halifax Harbour).

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Eastern Nova Scotia softshell clam fishery. The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

GULF OF MAINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose and Scope

The Gulf of Maine Advisory Committee will serve as the forum wherein representatives of the fishing industry and governments can jointly develop and provide advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on matters pertaining to Gulf of Maine fisheries issues. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the Committee will advise on operational, technical and scientific analyses necessary to support any future formal discussions with the United States.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee shall be co-chaired by a senior industry representative and the Director-General of the Scotia-Fundy Region.

The current membership of the Committee will be based on the following representation of industry, fishermen and government agencies.

Meetings

When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members will be responsible for their own expenses.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

GROUND FISH FISHERIES REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

These terms of reference will apply to the following Regional Advisory Committees:

- 1) Scotia-Fundy Groundfish Advisory Committee
- 2) 4X + 5 Groundfish Advisory Committee
- 3) Eastern Nova Scotia Advisory Committee

Purpose

For their respective fisheries and management areas, these Committees will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the fishery resource. Each Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the specific fishery.

Scope

Each Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

Each Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

Where appropriate, each Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

Each Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the individual Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The membership of the each committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the specific fishery. As a result, the criteria, method of selection and mix between fishermen, processors and various association will vary. Appendix I identifies the membership composition for the specific advisory committee.

Chairmanship

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

Each Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advise into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

Regional advisory committees responsible for inshore shellfish species will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY HERRING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Herring Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the fishery resource for Herring Fishing Areas 17, 18, 19, 20 and 22. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Scotia-Fundy Herring Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures. It will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions, gear restrictions and on inter-season adjustments to the annual fishing plan..

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Scotia-Fundy herring fishery.

The membership of the each committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO. Each association will be entitled to nominate two individuals of its choosing.

If an association wishes to nominate more than two individuals, such nominations would be considered within the Committee on an understanding that attendance will be at the expense of the nominating organization.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

INSHORE SCALLOP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Inshore Scallop Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the inshore scallop resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Inshore Scallop Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues for Scallop Fishing Areas 28 and 29. The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the inshore scallop fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

INSHORE SHELLFISH SPECIES REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

These terms of reference will apply to the following Regional Advisory Committees:

- 1) Scotia-Fundy Regional Lobster Advisory Committee*
- 2) Inshore Scallop Advisory Committee
- 3) Scotia-Fundy Soft-Shell Advisory Committee

* The Scotia-Fundy Regional Lobster Advisory Committee will represent both the inshore and offshore lobster fisheries.

Purpose

For their respective fisheries, these Committees will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the inshore shellfish resource. Each Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the specific fishery.

Scope

Each Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

Each Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions.

Where appropriate, each Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

Each Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the individual Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The membership of the each committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the specific fishery. As a result, the criteria, method of selection and mix between fishermen, processors and various association will vary. Appendices I, II and III identify the membership composition for the three inshore shell fish species.

Chairmanship

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

Each Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advise into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

Regional advisory committees responsible for inshore shellfish species will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 27 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 27 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 28, 29, 30 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 28, 29, 30 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 31, 32 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 31 and 32 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 33 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 33 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 34 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 34 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 35 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 35 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 36 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 36 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

LOBSTER FISHING AREA 38 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Lobster Fishing Area 38 Advisory Committee is to provide advice and recommendations on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster fishery resource.

Scope

The Advisory Committee will be the focal point for government/industry/public consultations on matters relating to the lobster fishery within the Lobster Fishing Area, including:

- a. annual management plans and allocation issues;
- b. licensing and other policies; and
- c. regulatory measures such as seasonal closures, size limitations, gear restrictions, etc.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership shall be so distributed that licensed fishermen elected by their peers will always constitute a majority. Locally based processors who wish to be represented may be appointed by the Chairman. Provision is made for a provincial government representative. There may also be a limited number of "members-at-large" appointed by the Chairman.

Meetings

Meetings will be held in a location within the Lobster Fishing Area. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis. Where voting is necessary, only elected representatives shall vote and all views shall be reported in the minutes.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet a minimum of once a year to finalize the fishing plan and as required by the Chairman.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY MACKEREL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Mackerel Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the mackerel fishery resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of annual management measures for the Scotia-Fundy Region.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures. It will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, by-catch provisions, gear restrictions and on inter-season adjustments to the annual fishing plan..

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Scotia-Fundy mackerel fishery.

The membership of the each committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advise into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SOUTHWEST NEW BRUNSWICK SHAD/GASPEREAU ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Southwest New Brunswick Gaspereau/Shad Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the gaspereau/shad resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of management measures for gaspereau and shad in Southwest New Brunswick.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership on the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of provincial governments and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

OFFSHORE CLAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Offshore Clam Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the offshore clam resource on Canada's Atlantic Coast. More specifically, the Committee will offer advice on the management of the offshore clam resource for the Scotian Shelf, Banquereau Bank and on the Grand Banks. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development on the Offshore Clam Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. It will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

It will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the offshore clam fishery. Membership on the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of government of provinces with significant shore-based infrastructure and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Membership on this Committee reflects the inter-regional nature of the fishery and the prominence of the enterprise allocation programme.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY CRAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Crab Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the offshore crab resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Scotia-Fundy Crab Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

It will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures. The advice offered by the Committee will be consistent with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans established policy on the development of underutilized species.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the offshore crab fishery. The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The membership of this Committee will depend on those individuals or companies having experimental licences for Jonah Crab and Red Crab. These experimental licences will be issued when Ministerial approval is received.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

OFFSHORE LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Offshore Lobster Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the offshore lobster resource for Lobster Fishing Area 41. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Offshore Lobster Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership on the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of government of provinces with significant shore-based infrastructure and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the offshore lobster fishery. Membership on this Committee reflects the prominence of the enterprise allocation programme.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

This Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

OFFSHORE SCALLOP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Offshore Scallop Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the offshore scallop resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of the annual Offshore Scallop Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on the management of the offshore scallop resource for Scallop Fishing Areas 3-9 (Grand Banks), 10-12 (St. Pierre Bank), 26 and 27 (Georges Bank, Brown's Bank, Sable Bank, Western Bank).

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership on the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of government of provinces with significant shore-based infrastructure and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The onus shall be on the various skipper/crew/owner organizations to nominate their representatives. Terms of appointment shall be for one year.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

OFFSHORE SHELLFISH SPECIES REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

These terms of reference will apply to the following Regional Advisory Committees:

- 1) Offshore Scallop Advisory Committee*
- 2) Offshore Clam Advisory Committee*
- 3) Offshore Lobster Advisory Committee*
- 4) Scotia-Fundy Crab Advisory Committee
- 5) Scotia-Fundy Shrimp Advisory Committee

* The advisory committees for offshore scallop, offshore clam and offshore lobster will address inter-regional management issues.

Purpose

For their respective fisheries, these Committees will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the offshore shellfish resource. Each Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the specific fishery.

Scope

Each Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

Each Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

Where appropriate, each Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

Each Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the individual Committee. The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The membership of the each committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the specific fishery. As a result, the criteria, method of selection and mix between fishermen, processors and various association will vary. Appendix I identifies the membership composition for the specific advisory committee.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

Each Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advise into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

Regional advisory committees responsible for inshore shellfish species will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY LARGE PELAGICS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Large Pelagics Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the Canadian East Coast tuna, swordfish and shark fishery resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the fishery.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by subcommittees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

Where appropriate the Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

The Scotia-Fundy Large pelagics Advisory Committee will be supported by separate working groups for bluefin tuna and for swordfish.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Scotia-Fundy large pelagics fishery. The Committee will consist of representatives from associations of fishermen from all gear sectors, processor associations, and the federal and provincial governments. Each association will be entitled to nominate two individuals of its choosing.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SMALL PELAGICS REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

These terms of reference will apply to the following Regional Advisory Committees:

- 1) Scotia-Fundy Herring Advisory Committee
- 2) Atlantic Mackerel Development Advisory Committee

Purpose

For their respective fisheries and management areas, these Committees will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the fishery resource. Each Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the specific fishery.

Scope

Each Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

Each Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

Where appropriate, each Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

Each Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the individual Committee. The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The membership of the each committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the specific fishery. As a result, the criteria, method of selection and mix between fishermen, processors and various association will vary. Appendix I identifies the membership composition for the specific advisory committee.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committees will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

Each Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

This Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 19 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

To serve as a forum for discussion and consultation among those sectors of the general public and Provincial Government, having an active interest in the Atlantic salmon resource, and the Federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans.

Scope

Advise on (a) the establishment of policies to enable implementation or better use of management measures, including examination of guidelines, delineating such matters as fishing seasons, quotas or bag limits, fishing methods and licensing for local recreational, commercial and native food fisheries; (b) the establishment of regulations to ensure sufficient conservation of the salmon resource and best utilization for its harvest, as well as methods to enable adequate enforcement of such regulations, and (c) review the necessity of development programs, including examination of environmental, biological, technical and economic considerations.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members. Acting on behalf of the Regional Director-General, the Department's Area Manager in each District will be the Chairman of that committee.

Wherever possible, representation in each of the specified districts will be drawn from all sectors dependent upon the Atlantic Salmon resource. In cases where interest groups draw representation from more than one body, or in certain instances where one sector demonstrates major differences of opinion, more than one representative may be permitted. In usual circumstances, however, membership shall normally be limited to a maximum of 15 individuals, and in no case should membership exceed 20. This Committee will draw representation from among the following:

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes of the Committee's meetings will be prepared and distributed by DFO.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 20

Purpose

To serve as a forum for discussion and consultation among those sectors of the general public and Provincial Government, having an active interest in the Atlantic salmon resource, and the Federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans.

Scope

Advise on (a) the establishment of policies to enable implementation or better use of management measures, including examination of guidelines, delineating such matters as fishing seasons, quotas or bag limits, fishing methods and licensing for local recreational, commercial and native food fisheries; (b) the establishment of regulations to ensure sufficient conservation of the salmon resource and best utilization for its harvest, as well as methods to enable adequate enforcement of such regulations, and (c) review the necessity of development programs, including examination of environmental, biological, technical and economic considerations.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members. Acting on behalf of the Regional Director-General, the Department's Area Manager in each District will be the Chairman of that committee.

Wherever possible, representation in each of the specified districts will be drawn from all sectors dependent upon the Atlantic Salmon resource. In cases where interest groups draw representation from more than one body, or in certain instances where one sector demonstrates major differences of opinion, more than one representative may be permitted. In usual circumstances, however, membership shall normally be limited to a maximum of 15 individuals, and in no case should membership exceed 20. This Committee will draw representation from among the following:

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 21

Purpose

To serve as a forum for discussion and consultation among those sectors of the general public and Provincial Government, having an active interest in the Atlantic salmon resource, and the Federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans.

Scope

Advise on (a) the establishment of policies to enable implementation or better use of management measures, including examination of guidelines, delineating such matters as fishing seasons, quotas or bag limits, fishing methods and licensing for local recreational, commercial and native food fisheries; (b) the establishment of regulations to ensure sufficient conservation of the salmon resource and best utilization for its harvest, as well as methods to enable adequate enforcement of such regulations, and (c) review the necessity of development programs, including examination of environmental, biological, technical and economic considerations.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members. Acting on behalf of the Regional Director-General, the Department's Area Manager in each District will be the Chairman of that committee.

Wherever possible, representation in each of the specified districts will be drawn from all sectors dependent upon the Atlantic Salmon resource. In cases where interest groups draw representation from more than one body, or in certain instances where one sector demonstrates major differences of opinion, more than one representative may be permitted. In usual circumstances, however, membership shall normally be limited to a maximum of 15 individuals, and in no case should membership exceed 20. This Committee will draw representation from among the following:

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 22

Purpose

To serve as a forum for discussion and consultation among those sectors of the general public and Provincial Government, having an active interest in the Atlantic salmon resource, and the Federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans.

Scope

Advise on (a) the establishment of policies to enable implementation or better use of management measures, including examination of guidelines, delineating such matters as fishing seasons, quotas or bag limits, fishing methods and licensing for local recreational, commercial and native food fisheries; (b) the establishment of regulations to ensure sufficient conservation of the salmon resource and best utilization for its harvest, as well as methods to enable adequate enforcement of such regulations, and (c) review the necessity of development programs, including examination of environmental, biological, technical and economic considerations.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Acting on behalf of the Regional Director-General, the Department's Area Manager in each District will be the Chairman of that committee.

Wherever possible, representation in each of the specified districts will be drawn from all sectors dependent upon the Atlantic Salmon resource. In cases where interest groups draw representation from more than one body, or in certain instances where one sector demonstrates major differences of opinion, more than one representative may be permitted. In usual circumstances, however, membership shall normally be limited to a maximum of 15 individuals, and in no case should membership exceed 20. This Committee will draw representation from among the following:

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SALMON ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 23

Purpose

To serve as a forum for discussion and consultation among those sectors of the general public and Provincial Government, having an active interest in the Atlantic salmon resource, and the Federal Department of Fisheries & Oceans.

Scope

Advise on (a) the establishment of policies to enable implementation or better use of management measures, including examination of guidelines, delineating such matters as fishing seasons, quotas or bag limits, fishing methods and licensing for local recreational, commercial and native food fisheries; (b) the establishment of regulations to ensure sufficient conservation of the salmon resource and best utilization for its harvest, as well as methods to enable adequate enforcement of such regulations, and (c) review the necessity of development programs, including examination of environmental, biological, technical and economic considerations.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of a committee will be decided by the Committee.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members. Acting on behalf of the Regional Director-General, the Department's Area Manager in each District will be the Chairman of that committee.

Wherever possible, representation in each of the specified districts will be drawn from all sectors dependent upon the Atlantic Salmon resource. In cases where interest groups draw representation from more than one body, or in certain instances where one sector demonstrates major differences of opinion, more than one representative may be permitted. In usual circumstances, however, membership shall normally be limited to a maximum of 15 individuals, and in no case should membership exceed 20. This Committee will draw representation from among the following:

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY GROUND FISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Groundfish Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the groundfish fishery resource. This Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues for NAFO Areas 4Vn, 4VS, 4W, 4X, 5Y and 5Ze. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions.

The Committee will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, the administration of enterprise allocation programmes, the allocation of foreign quotas and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY REGIONAL LOBSTER REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Regional Lobster Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the lobster resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of management measures to be used in the Scotia-Fundy lobster fishery.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues for Lobster Fishing Areas 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 38 and 41. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the lobster fishery. The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY SHRIMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Shrimp Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the Scotia-Fundy shrimp resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development on the annual Scotia-Fundy Shrimp Fishing Plan.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, by-catch provisions and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on annual total allowable catches, quotas, and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures. The advice offered by the Committee will be consistent with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans established policy for underutilized species.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Scotia-Fundy shrimp fishery. The membership of the Committee will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SCOTIA-FUNDY SOFTSHELL CLAM REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Scotia-Fundy Regional SoftShell Clam Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the softshell clam resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of management measures for the Scotia-Fundy softshell clam fishery.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. Consequently, the Committee can review recommendations made by area advisory committees to determine what management measures could be included in Regional fishing plans.

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Scotia-Fundy softshell clam fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

Regional advisory committees responsible for inshore shellfish species will meet at least twice a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

ST. MARY'S RIVER PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The St. Mary's River Planning Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on an appropriate, workable methodology for river-specific management of the Atlantic salmon resource and other fish resources of the St. Mary's River.

Scope

The Committee will provide recommendations and advice on Regional policy issues. The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee will be co-chaired by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the St. Mary's River Association. In the event that one of the co-chairmen cannot attend a meeting, the other co-chairman will conduct the meeting.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the fishery on the St. Mary's River. The membership will be made up of representatives from those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives from provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committee's consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SOUTHWEST NEW BRUNSWICK EEL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Southwest New Brunswick Eel Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the eel resource. The Committee will serve as the pre-eminent consultative forum for the development of management measures for eel fishery in Southwest New Brunswick.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership on the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of provincial governments and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Meetings

Meetings can be held throughout the Scotia-Fundy Region. When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SOUTHWEST NEW BRUNSWICK SOFT SHELL CLAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Southwest New Brunswick Soft Shell Clam Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the soft shell clam resource.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Southwest New Brunswick soft shell clam fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Most meetings will be held in Black Harbour, New Brunswick. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee, if possible, will meet four times a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SOUTHWEST NOVA SCOTIA MARINE PLANTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Southwest Nova Scotia Marine Plants Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the marine plants resource (rockweed, Irish Moss and dulse).

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual harvesting plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Southwest Nova Scotia marine plants fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Most meetings will be held in Black Harbour, New Brunswick. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

SOUTHWEST NOVA SCOTIA CLAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Southwest Nova Scotia Clam Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the clam resource.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations, gear restrictions and on habitat protection. It will make recommendations on recreational fisheries and on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

The composition of the Committee membership will reflect the structure and nature of the Southwest Nova Scotia clam fishery. The membership will be made up of representatives from fishermen associations and unions, processors, individual fishermen, other industry representatives, provincial governments and DFO.

Meetings

Most meetings will be held in Black Harbour, New Brunswick. When feasible, meetings will be held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

UPPER BAY OF FUNDY FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Upper Bay of Fundy Fisheries Management Advisory Committee will provide input and advice to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on the conservation, protection and management of the scallop, groundfish, gaspereau, shad, clam and herring fisheries in those Bay of Fundy waters off the Nova Scotia counties of Kings, Hants, Colchester and Cumberland and the New Brunswick counties of Albert and Westmorland.

Scope

The Committee will provide advice on annual fishing plans, regulatory measures, fishing seasons, licensing policies, size limitations and gear restrictions. It will make recommendations on the introduction of new fishing technologies into the fishery that may affect existing management measures.

The Committee will give consideration to biological, marketing and other information as it affects the management of the resource.

Structure

Any changes to the structure and administration of the Committee will be decided by the Committee membership.

Ad hoc subcommittees/working groups can be established to review and assess specific policy options and management measures.

Membership

The Committee chairmanship will be held by a DFO official. An industry co-chairman may be appointed at the discretion of Committee members.

Membership on the Committee shall be made up of those industry sectors having a major involvement in the harvesting and processing/marketing of the resource, as well as representatives of provincial governments and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The onus shall be on the various organizations to nominate their representatives. Appointment to the Committee shall be for two years, after which half of the members will be subject to replacement every other year starting at the end of the second year.

Meetings

When feasible, meetings will held at times and places convenient to the membership.

Expenses

Members who do not receive funding for expenses incurred when attending meetings may be reimbursed subject to Treasury Board guidelines.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be established. The Committee will seek to operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Public Access

Unless a majority of Committee members say otherwise before a meeting starts, the proceedings of the Advisory Committee will be open to the public and to media representatives.

DFO Working Groups

The Committee will be supported by a working group of DFO officials who will consolidate scientific, economic and management advice into draft fishing plans for the Committees' consideration.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year. Additional meetings can be held if required.

Attendance

If a member cannot attend, an alternate may be nominated and the Chairman notified as far in advance of the meeting date as possible.

GULF GROUND FISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Gulf Groundfish Advisory Committee is to advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on matters pertaining to the management of Groundfish in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Scope

The Committee will be a focal point for federal-provincial, processor-fishermen consultations on matters relating to resource allocation, harvesting, and processing, including:

- a. the annual Atlantic groundfish management plan;
- b. the setting of Total Allowable Catches;
- c. and other regulatory measures such as licensing, mesh size, gear restrictions, fishing seasons and quotas.

Membership

The Committee will be chaired by a representative of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Each association will be entitled to nominate an individual of its choosing. The expenses incurred to attend scheduled meetings by that individual will be borne by the federal government at prevailing rates.

Attendance by members of Associations with a broad range of coverage in membership may be considered under special circumstances.

Expenses

A per diem allowance will be paid only to individuals who would be losing income as a consequence of their attendance at committee meetings. This would normally be self-employed fishermen during the fishing season.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be entrenched in the Committee structure but, rather, it will operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

DFO Working Group

The Committee will consist of representatives from associations of fishermen, processors' associations and federal and provincial governments.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year, and in special circumstances on an emergency basis.

GULF SHRIMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Gulf Shrimp Advisory Committee is to advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on matters pertaining to the management of shrimp within the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Scope

The Committee will be a focal point for federal-provincial, processor-fishermen consultations on matters relating to resource allocation, harvesting and processing, including:

- a) annual management plan;
- b) the setting of Total Allowable Catches;
- c) and other regulatory measures such as licensing, mesh size, gear restrictions, fishing seasons and quotas.

Membership

The Committee will be chaired by a representative of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

The Committee will consist of representatives from associations of fishermen, processors' associations and federal and provincial governments.

Expenses

A per diem allowance will be paid only to individuals who would be losing income as a consequence of their attendance at GSAC meetings. This would normally be self-employed fishermen during the fishing season.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be entrenched in the Committee structure but rather it will operate on a consensus basis.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

DFO Working Group

The Committee will be supported by a permanent federal working group. Other working groups with federal-provincial, processor and fishermen representation may be established on an ad hoc basis to deal with specific problems.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet several times a year, and in special circumstances on an emergency basis.

GULF SMALL PELAGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Small Pelagic Advisory Committee is to advise the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans on matters related to the management of the small pelagic species resource, resident of the Gulf Region, including recommendations concerning:

- the requirement for closed areas and seasons
- methods of harvesting, including types
- collection of catch and economic statistics
- licensing policy
- overall research needs and priorities
- division of catch between types of processing
- size limits
- export of fresh fish species
- exploratory fishing
- gear and product development
- marketing studies
- quality control
- any other matters that might be referred to the Committee for consideration.

Membership

The Committee will be constituted as follows:

- All Area Directors of the Gulf Region;
- Representatives from the five Provincial Governments, namely: Newfoundland-Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec;
- Two members representing the inshore fishermen from each Area within the Gulf Region;
- Three members representing the Seiner Sector;
- Five representatives from the Processing Sector being one from each Province.

Chairmanship

The Chairman shall be the Director General for the Gulf Region.

Number of Meetings

The Committee shall meet twice per year at the call of the Chairman.

DFO Working Group

The Committee shall have a secretariat provided by the Chairman in support of the administrative needs of the Committee

GULF SNOW CRAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The purpose of the Gulf Snow Crab Advisory Committee is to advise the Department of Fisheries and Oceans on matters pertaining to the management of snow crab in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Scope

The Committee will be the a focal point for federal-provincial, processor-fishermen consultations on matters relating to resource allocation, harvesting, and processing, including:

- a. the annual Gulf Snow Crab management plans;
- b. the setting of Total Allowable Catch;
- c. and other regulatory measures such as licensing, mesh size, and gear restrictions, fishing seasons, and quotas.

Membership

The Committee will consist of representatives from associations of fishermen, processors' associations and federal and provincial governments.

Each association will be entitled to nominate an individual of its choosing. The expenses incurred to attend scheduled meetings by that individual will be borne by the federal government at prevailing rates.

Attendance by members of Associations with a broad range of coverage in membership may be considered under special circumstances.

Expenses

A per diem allowance will be paid only to individual who would be losing income as a consequence of their attendance at committee meetings. This would normally be self-employed fishermen during the fishing season.

Voting Procedures

No formal voting procedures will be entrenched in the Committee structure but, rather, it will operate on a consensus basis.

Each association will be entitled to nominate an individual of its choosing. The expenses incurred to attend scheduled meetings by that individual will be borne by the federal government at prevailing rates.

Minutes of Meetings

Minutes will be prepared and distributed by the Department.

Number of Meetings

The Committee will meet at least once a year, and in special circumstances on an emergency basis.

GULF AREA 26 LOBSTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose

The Area 26 Lobster Advisory Committee is a focal point for consultations between federal and provincial governments, and commercial lobster fishermen, buyers, processors and brokers on the management of the lobster resource in lobster fishing Area 26 (N.S. and P.E.I.)

Scope

The Committee will function as an advisory body similar to other fisheries management advisory committees and report to the Director General, Gulf Region. It will operate on a consensus basis without formal voting procedures. The Chairman may establish sub-committees to review and assess the implications of policy options being considered. The Committee will normally meet once per year, during the winter months, with additional meetings being convened in extraordinary circumstances.

Membership

The Committee will be comprised of representatives of provincial governments, commercial fishermen, fish buyers, processors, brokers and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

GULF AREA 24 SCALLOP ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Scope

The Area 24 Scallop Advisory Committee is a focal point for consultations between federal and provincial governments, and commercial scallop fishermen, buyers, processors and brokers on the management of the scallop resource in Area 24 (N.S. and P.E.I.).

The Committee will function as an advisory body similar to other fisheries management advisory committees and report to the Director General, Gulf Region, Department of Fisheries and Oceans. It will operate on a consensus basis without formal voting procedures. The Chairman may establish sub-committees to review and assess the implications of policy options being considered. The Committee will normally meet once per year, during the winter months, with additional meetings being convened in extraordinary circumstances.

Membership

The Committee will be representative of provincial governments, commercial fishermen, and fish buyers, processors, brokers, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.

Expenses

Non-governmental Committee members will be reimbursed for travel expenses in accordance with current federal Treasury Board guidelines; per diem allowances will be paid for those members incurring a loss of fishing income as a result of meetings.

DFO Working Groups

The Chairman and members of the Committee will be appointed for a one-year duration with provisions for extensions or reappointments at the discretion of the Regional Director General. Appointments of substitutes or alternative members will be subject to the approval of the Chairman.

IMPROVEMENTS FRAMEWORK FOR CONSULTATION PROCESS OF ATLANTIC FISHERIES

<u>Areas Requiring Treatment</u>	<u>Desired Result(s)</u>	<u>Treatment Recommended</u>	<u>Who Should Treat</u>
1. <u>Institutional Reforms</u>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure better client involvement in fisheries management decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced client accountability; • Lessen conflict and instances of adversarial positions as a means of building improved partnerships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal consultation must embrace principles which promote partnerships and enhanced local decision-making in appropriate fisheries. • Departmental positions must not be viewed as decisions during consultation phase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADM Atlantic fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure a coherent framework for fisheries management decision-making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistency and predictability in the decision-making process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued adherence to established principles with regular feedback. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADM Atlantic fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance of perceived political "interference" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients must view the consultative process as the preferred and most effective means of exercising influence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimize formal post consultation whenever possible. • Acknowledge client contributions in communications strategies. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defining the Department's consultative framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dominant theme is cooperation and outside input into conflict resolution and policy development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a comprehensive consultation guide with appropriate principles and then consult extensively with clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADM P&PP in collaboration with other Sector ADMs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced capacity to plan and manage consultative processes successfully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of strategies and procedures to promote communications and consultation which are inherent constituents of the Department's consultative framework. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional training for managers in negotiation, communication and consultation. • Consider establishing a small "in-house" external consultations management unit within Communications Directorate at HQ. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADM P&PP in collaboration with other Sector ADMs.

- Strengthen top management commitment to client-focussed relationships

- Leadership style which supports and values consultation and commitment to developing lasting partnerships with clients.

- Develop matrix of leadership qualities and skills levels against which the performance of managers on consultation initiatives will be assessed.

- Lead role to Corporate Personnel in collaboration with other Sectors (and PSC, CCMD).

2.

Systemic Reforms

- Shared responsibility of the agenda

- Shared responsibility will promote greater accountability of the parties for outcomes and results, and should reduce frequency of "end runs" to the Minister's Office.

- Preliminary agenda to be developed by representatives 3 weeks prior to the meeting.

- Committee chairpersons.

- Shared responsibility will promote a partnership attitude amongst the parties.

- All background papers and reports must be exchanged between the parties within 2 weeks of the meeting (scientific advice pending).

- Deliberations of the committees

- Enhanced accountability of industry representatives relative to their positions and constituents.

- Deliberations will be a matter of public record and communicated accordingly.

- RDGs in collaboration with committee chairpersons.

- Enhanced transparency of proceedings.

- Scheduling of committee meetings

- Enhanced coordination through early notification.

- Annual schedule of consultation meetings to be developed and distributed to committee membership.

- ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with ADM Science and RDGs.

- Minimize absenteeism rate of participants due to conflicting schedules.

- Venues and dates of meetings to be confirmed 3 weeks prior to meetings.

- More informed and comprehensive discussion.

- Reporting of proceedings
 - Written reports should represent the viewpoints and positions of the parties, are a matter of public record and clearly specify what action is to be taken.
 - Reports in both official languages are to be prepared within 21 days of the conclusion of the meeting, approved by the chairperson and distributed to all representatives within 28 days of the conclusion of the meeting.
 - Viewpoints and positions shall be attributed in the record of proceedings.
 - Committee chairpersons.
 - Committee chairpersons.

- Dealing with the media
 - Strengthen understanding of the consultative process and balanced reporting on issues under discussion.
 - Adoption of principles previously developed (draft) by HQ Communications Directorate.
 - ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.

- Chairmanship of committees
 - Ensure openness and fairness, and procedural order in the conduct of deliberations.
 - Role and responsibilities of chairpersons to be defined.
 - Protocol to be established for conduct of meetings.
 - ADM Atlantic Fisheries in collaboration with RDGs.

- Reimbursement of expenses and honorarium
 - Rationalization of the disbursement of public funds.
 - No reimbursement of expenses and honorarium.

3. Structural Reform

- Representation
 - The number of representatives should be the minimum required for balanced understanding of the issues, effective communication and serious pursuit of consensus.
 - Representatives themselves should be duly elected by the organizations they represent, and be empowered to speak for their organizations.
 - Organizations, on the other hand, should be duly incorporated entities with constitutions and official membership lists.

Area Committees

Harvesting Sector

- One representative at table per fleet sector and/or management area.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by organization.

Province

- One representative at table.
- Discretionary term.

Processing Sector

- One representative at table per association to a maximum of two.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by association.

Department

- Up to two officials at table.
- Discretionary term.

Regional Committees

Harvesting Sector

- One representative at table per fleet sector and/or management area.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by organization.

Province

- One representative at table.
- Discretionary term.

Processing Sector

- One representative at table per association to a maximum of two.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by association.

Department

- Up to two officials at table.
- Discretionary term.

Inter-Regional/Sector Committees

Harvesting Sector

- One representative at table per fleet sector and/or management area.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by organization.

Province

- One representative at table.
- Discretionary term.

Processing Sector

- One representative at table per association to a maximum of two.
- Two-year renewable term.
- Representative chosen by association.

Department

- Up to two officials at table.
- Discretionary term.

