



16 September 2024

MINUTES

Nordic Marine Think Tank, NMTT, Board Meeting III (Zoom) Monday 2 September 2024

Present: The NMTT Chair Dorothy Dankel, Vice-chair Carl-Christian Schmidt, Staffan Waldo, Jens Møller, Hildur Hauksdóttir, Jesper Heldbo. **Not Present:** Johan Williams and Marita Rasmussen. From the NMTT Secretariat Lars Clink and Sonja Feldthaus.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everybody.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as circulated.

3. Approval og Minutes from Board Meeting 2 April 2024

The Minutes was adopted.

4. Presentation of possible introduction of ITQ in Swedish demersal fisheries

Two Swedish scientists presented a suggestion for possible introduction of an ITQ-system for demersal fisheries in Sweden. Based on comprehensive information about the pelagic fishery sector, the scientists have identified a number of criterias such as “coastal quotas”, duration of licenses, restriction of quota transfer etc. for introducing ITQ. So far no political mandate to implement ITQ in the demersal fisheries has been agreed upon.

At the next Board meeting Hildur Hauksdóttir will address climate cooperation between the Icelandic fishing industry and the Government of Iceland.

5. Table round

The Chair will participate in the ICES annual science conference on the North East mackrel advice and in a meeting on national fisheries and land based food production in Norway and in a dicussion on off shore wind power in Portland.

Staffan Waldo informed about a Swedish workshop on spatial planning and off shore wind power. He also informed that the Swedish Vattenfall will refrain from constructing an off shore wind power plant close to Denmark. He also informed about discussions between small scale fishermen and the pelagic sector whether to fish or not on the Baltic Sea heering in light of the current biological situation. Some NGOs have taken this issue to the

Europeana Court. A project on cumulative effects on fishers from wind power is in progress starting with a dialog with stakeholders.

Jens Møller informed about a joint project between Gemba, the Port of Skagen and the Danish pelagic sector on electrification of vessels when staying in ports with a view to reducing CO2 emissions.

Carl-Christian mention a seminar on energy transition of nordic fisheries taking place in Malmö in November. Also mentioned that Seafishers have updated its report on climate change and fisheries, and that he has been hired by both FAO and OECD as external reviewer of the state of world fisheries. Suggested that promotion of the third Forum workshop could start in October.

Jesper Heldbo informed about pressure from the aquacultural sector for more speedy procedures for approval of production expansion. A report on bottom trawling ordered by "HAV" has been withdrawn by the Ministry of Environment due to heavy criticism, The Danish Power Plant Ørsted has recently dropped out of one "Power to X" project.

Hildur Hauksdóttir mentioned a new report on environment including climate and electrification. The Icelandic government has published a climate plan focussed on biofuel and carbon tax.

6. Status from the Second Forum on Climate Change for Fisheries and Aquaculture - report writing

The report from the Forum is published and can be accessed on the website. The project will be closed shortly - within the budget. Signatures from the Chair and Vice- Chair are awaited.

7. Status of the new project/conference proposal to the Nordic Council of Ministers (Third Forum on Climate Change)

The Vice-chair informed that planning for the third workshop is progressing very well. The program for the Third Forum meeting on 16 January 2025 as well as speakers and chairs are almost in place. Fine-tuning of the program as well as practical details are taking up continuously. To follow up, Carl-Christian will meet with Lars and Sonja in Copenhagen on 3 October.

8. Financial Status. Annual report for 2023 and budget for 2024

Lars presented the annual report for 2023 which shows a deficit in the ordinary account of DKK 13.963 to be covered from the net assets which stands at DKK 590.714. The Bergen conference is fully financed. The running cost in 2024 are very similar to the budget for 2024. The report for 2023 and the 2024 budget were both approved. The Report for 2023 will be presented at the General Assembly.

9. Exchange of views about possible change of the NMTT statute

Lars explained the reasoning for suggesting an amendment to the NMTT statute. As it has proven difficult to recruit members to the Board, a more flexible size composing the board of four to eight members, could facilitate decision making. It was agreed to present to the General Assembly the amendment.

10. Follow up on unpaid Membership fee

Dorothy will shortly write to inactive members to explore their interest in being members or not.

11. Date for NMTT General Assembly 2024

It was agreed to hold the 12th NMTT General Assembly on 22 November 2024, 10.30 hours at the premises of Gemba, north of Copenhagen (Venlighedsvej 6, DK 2970 Hørsholm) If need for an Extraordinary General Assembly occurs, it should be called for on the same date.

12. Any Other Business

No additional issues were raised. Reminded that next Board meeting takes place on 14th October 2024, 13.00 hours (12.00 hours Faroe Islands and 11.00 hours Island).