



Minutes

Nordic Marine Think Tank, NMTT Board Meeting IV Monday October 14, 2024

Present: The NMTT Chair Dorothy Dankel, Vice-chair Carl-Christian Schmidt, Staffan Waldo, Jens Møller, Hildur Hauksdóttir, Johan Williams and Marita Rasmussen. Excuse from Jesper Heldbo. From the NMTT Secretariat Lars Clink and Sonja Feldthaus.

1. Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everybody.

2. Adaption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

3. Approval of Minutes from 12 September 2024

The Minutes was approved.

4. Table round

The Chair informed about the ICES meeting on marcel. Netflix will send the documentary on climate change on 20 November. The Netflix series Dorothy help with is called “Our Oceans”. Dorothy also helped with the Artic episode that includes climate change effects on species.

Carl-Christian Schmidt reported from his meeting with officials from the Nordic Council of Ministers (NCM) where he among others gave an update on the upcoming third Forum on Climate Change for fisheries and Aquaculture taking place in Helsingborg on 16 January 2025. The NCM informed that the incoming Finnish Chairmanship of NCM (in 2025) has announced that they will focus on mitigation of effects of climate change. A proposal to cooperate with NCM on that issue has been submitted by NMTT to NCM as possible fourth workshop on Climate Change for Fisheries in line with climate change mitigation and the possibility to

move away from the use of fossil fuel in fisheries.

Jens Møller informed about an ICPWF meeting in Amsterdam next week addressing sustainability for cold water prawns. Currently participating in a meeting in Brest where he will give a presentation of the “Skagen” project focusing on electrification in ports and pelagic vessels on shore. Looking for technical solutions.

Marita Rasmussen reported on talks about electrification of harbours which gives a lot of disputes about financing between municipalities and government. A week congress on ocean aspects to merged with researchers will be arranged in May 2026. Presentation of research.

Asking CNM for support

Staffan Waldo informed that marine spatial planning is being revised in light of wind power and fisheries. SLU has published a report on how fisheries is impacted. Despite a more positive ICES advice for 2025 for the Baltic Sea herring it is discussed whether to establish quotas in line with the advice or to establish quotas at a lower level. Quotas for the Baltic Sea will be adopted by the Council of Minister on 21 October in Luxembourg.

Johan Williams noted that the pelagic fisheries should have been addressed much earlier as it has proven difficult or not possible at all to agree on allocations among the relevant coastal states, and seeks ideas on how to react to the changes. Will participate in a conference on fisheries communities in South Korea.

Hildur Hauksdóttir informed that a fisheries conference will take place shortly. Last week a conference on aquaculture was held. The advice for capelin is a zero, but could change following new surveys. A zero quota will seriously affect the fishing sector. Electrification is also a big issue in Iceland. An environmental report will shortly be published in English. Much will be on hold due to upcoming general election.

5. Presentation by Hildur Hauksdóttir on climate cooperation between the Icelandic fishing industry and the Government of Iceland

A climate partnership is established with the government. A climate roadmap to point out possible ways forward with respect to emission from the fishing industry. Looking at vessels for reducing fuel consumption. Investment has been made in vessels using less fuel. Lower carbon footprints. Started in 2022. Means and measures for achieving the goal of a 55 pct reduction by 2030. Potential reduction provides that measures listed are introduced. Renewing vessels. Very expensive measures to be introduced. Energy efficiency measures, technical measures, operational measures, legislative measures. Vessels And fishmeal factories. Framework should be approved by GOI. Fishermen prepared to implement the proposals. Climate action plan presented by GOI will increase burdens for the fishing industry. Legal consultation initiated.

6. Update on planning of the third workshop of the Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Helsingborg 16

January 2025

Carl-Christian informed about his meeting with David Reid, ICES, who confirmed that ICES will continue to cooperate with NMTT on the third Forum. A preliminary agenda has been sent out to around 300 people. At the third workshop among others, FAO will talk about food consumption and the Danish Consumers Ombudsman Institution will speak about requirements according to legislation on labelling. The final agenda will be circulated in the beginning of November. Information on the workshop should be spread around as much as possible including through the Board members. Possible financial support for attending will be looked into.

7. Preparation of the Annual General Assembly scheduled for 22 November 2024

The 12th Ordinary General Assembly will be held on 22 November 2024 starting at 10.30 CET and will be hosted by Gemba in Hørsholm, Venlighedsvej 6, 2970 Hørsholm. A need for an extraordinary general assembly can be expected. To prepare for the meeting Lars and Sonja will coordinate the practical set up with Jens. The Chair encouraged all members of NMTT as well board members to attend in person. Confirmed that Board members can seek financial support for participation. Request should be sent to Dorothy Dankel in advance. Following the General Assembly a working seminar to discuss the workplan for next year will take place. The pelagic issue could also be addressed. Suggestions for the afternoon session are welcome and should be forwarded to the Chair.

8. Financial status

Lars Clink informed that the second workshop is closed with respect to activities and financially it will be closed shortly. NMTT has received a down payment for the third workshop from the Nordic Council of Ministers. The current audit company will continue next year, but Lissen Fagerlin Hammer has replaced the current auditor.

9. AOB

The Chair reverted to the mackerel issue. Decline in stock of 40 %. Draft prepared for an article on the marcel issue. The stock is under decline and it should be discussed what to do. The stock is moving out it is original waters away from the EU. Climate aspects should also be addressed. Now the stock has expanded into Icelandic waters. Did climate change induce the move of the stock?