



منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
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des
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pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

COORDINATING WORKING PARTY ON FISHERY STATISTICS

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Report by NAFO

Since 2002, the Scientific Council has hosted 2 symposia ("Elasmobranch Fisheries: Managing for Sustainable Use and Biodiversity Conservation" and "The Ecosystem of the Flemish Cap") that are being published in the NAFO Journal (<http://journal.nafo.int>). In addition, a Workshop on "Mapping and Geostatistical Methods for Fisheries Stock Assessments" took place in 2003 (NAFO SCS Doc. 03/13).

In 2004 NAFO Fisheries Commission adopted a Precautionary Approach Framework that had been elaborated by Scientific Council. The NAFO Vessel Monitoring System has been strengthened within NAFO with position reports sent every two hours instead of the previous every 6 hours. Also, a Pilot Project on Observers, Satellite Tracking and Electronic Reporting has been introduced in 2004 that involves real time daily catch reports sent through the VMS (see the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures on the NAFO website www.nafo.int).

Regarding fisheries statistical data, NAFO does not receive all data in a timely and complete manner and in addition, reliability of statistical data was questioned by Scientific Council in 2004. The STATLANT data submission underwent some minor modification since 2002.

In 2004 NAFO signed the FIRMS Partnership agreement. NAFO has signed an agreement of cooperation with ICES and has two joint NAFO/ICES groups: one on harp and hooded seals, the other on shrimp assessment.

All current and recent NAFO publications can be accessed through the NAFO website: www.nafo.int. Archives are restricted due to a lack of space on the server but older documents can be requested via email (fperry@nafo.int or bcrawford@nafo.int). The electronic version of the NAFO Journal has its own website (journal.nafo.int).

Following NAFO's report on the Elasmobranch symposium, the meeting discussed improvements in shark data reporting. The development was encouraging with all concerned RFBS reporting on improved species details.