

# ICES SCICOM REPORT 2010

ICES SCIENCE COMMITTEE

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## Report of the ICES Science Committee (SCICOM)

September 2010

Nantes, France



**ICES**

International Council for  
the Exploration of the Sea

**CIEM**

Conseil International pour  
l'Exploration de la Mer

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## **19 September (Sunday) SCICOM meeting (9:00–18:00)**

### **1 Opening**

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The SCICOM Chair welcomed the participants to Nantes, France with a comment that this meeting's agenda would involve a lot of position-making for the ICES Science Committee and encouraged members to rise up to the challenge of making decisions on scientific matters.

The list of participants is provided in Annex 1. The Chair conducted a tour de table, introducing all members.

### **2 Adoption of agenda and timetable**

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The agenda was adopted with one addition. It was deemed appropriate to have a first presentation on the Strategic Initiative on Biodiversity and a first discussion in SCICOM before the joint ACOM/SCICOM meeting.

### **3 Follow up on decisions taken at the meetings of SCICOM (4–6 May 2010)**

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All items identified as actions at the previous meeting of SCICOM (4–6 May 2010) had been followed up.

The action for SSGHIE to conduct an exercise to look at how EGs are implementing the Science Plan, similar to the one conducted by SSGEF, had not been done yet. The SSGHIE intersessional WebEx had seen poor attendance and therefore this had not been possible at an earlier stage. Instead this would be taken up with EG Chairs at this ASC meeting.

The SCICOM Chair asked members to consider nominations for keynotes/invited speakers to be linked to theme sessions at the Annual Science Conference in Gdansk, Poland. In this connection the question of whether there would be a general theme for the ASC 2011 was raised. The BONUS programme had been asked to suggest theme sessions, but apart from the geographic focus on the Baltic, no specific general theme for the conference has been requested from the organising country.

### **4 Election of new Chair of SSGSUE**

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The candidate, Daniel Duplisea, was asked to introduce himself and to provide a short statement of his vision for the future of SSGSUE. All members endorsed the election of Daniel Duplisea as new Chair of SSGSUE. The Chair thanked Mark Dickey-Collas for his work as Chair of SSGSUE from May 2009. His term would end by the end of the year 2010.

**Decision:** Daniel Duplisea was appointed as Chair of the SSGSUE for the period 2011–2013.

### **5 Election of new Chair of Training Group**

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Gerd Kraus, Chair of the Training Group needed to be replaced due to his appointment to Council as German representative. The candidate, Steven Cadrin, was asked to introduce himself and provide a short statement of his vision for the future of the Training Group. All members endorsed the election of Steven Cadrin as new Chair of

the ICES Training Group. The Chair thanked Gerd Kraus, for his work in SCICOM and for doing an excellent job in the first phase of the Training Group. Gerd Kraus, in return, thanked the Secretariat for the tremendous support and gave his best wishes to Steve Cadrin in his tenure.

**Decision:** Steve Cadrin was appointed as Chair of the Training Group for the period 2011–2013.

## **6 General arrangements for Annual Science Conference 2010**

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The Head of Science Programme briefed the committee on the arrangements for the Annual Science Conference 2010. The number of registered participants had reached a new record with 768 participants from 36 countries (with a maximum capacity of the venue at 800), and at the same time record high participation of students and young scientists – one of the explanations being the reasonable conference fee and the proximity to several universities. As a novelty, the programme will host an evening session, with an invited lecture on the Census of Marine Life project, by Dr Myriam Sibuet, Vice Chair of the CoML Scientific Committee. The lecture will be followed by the movie "Oceans" by Jacques Perrin, France. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the IOC will also be acknowledged through an address of the IOC Executive Secretary at the Opening Session.

### **Recommendation for future ASCs**

At present invited speakers are greeted by the Secretariat and receive an invitation to attend the conference dinner. The ICES President put forward a suggestion for a formal procedure for representatives of SCICOM to greet and look after the ASC invited speakers beyond the greetings extended by the Secretariat. SCICOM representatives would be appointed as hosts and contact persons to liaise with the keynote speakers and to invite them to lunch or dinner. The expenses incurred would be covered via the ASC income.

### **6.1 Draft Resolutions (preview/planning)**

The 2010 draft resolutions had been made available on the joint ACOM/SCICOM SharePoint site prior to the meeting. The following deadlines had been agreed by the SCICOM Business Group:

- Draft resolutions under Category 1, 3 and 4 to be submitted to the Secretariat by noon, Thursday, 23 September.
- Category 2 resolutions to be finalised by SSG Chairs after the ASC with a deadline of Friday 1 October 2010.

Meetings for the SCICOM Steering Group Chairs, the SCICOM Chair and the Head of Science Programme to go through resolutions were arranged for Thursday, 23 September, in order to avoid redundancy, time conflicts, and to achieve consistency.

The PUBCOM Chair informed the committee that a backlog of CRR publications, combined with limited funds and capacity, has led PUBCOM to rank draft resolutions for new publications (Category 1 resolutions). SSG Chairs are encouraged to link existing requests to the Science Plan.

## 6.2 Preparation of SCICOM Steering Group meetings

The Chairs of the SCICOM Steering Groups SSGs were asked to give an update on their plans for the SSG meetings to be held on Monday and Wednesday of the ASC week.

### **Steering Group on Sustainable Use of Ecosystems (SSGSUE)**

The SSGSUE Chair, Mark Dickey-Collas, informed the committee that two generic agenda items had been scheduled for the first meeting, and would address the Science Plan, i.e., how SSGSUE Expert Groups link to the Science Plan and whether SSGSUE is contributing and has relevant expertise to deliver the Science Plan. Rotational reporting of EGs has now been introduced, and thus only 4 reports (SIMWG, WGQUF, SGHERWAY and SGVMS) would be presented at the Wednesday meeting. The idea of this new setup was to allow more time to address important issues. The SSGSUE Chair assured the committee that if other EG Chairs were to turn up with a presentation he would try to squeeze them into the agenda.

An agenda item to “Review initiatives and produce a comment paper on operational modelling based on presentations and responses from expert groups” was scheduled for the Wednesday meeting and invitations had been extended to relevant people.

### **Steering Group on Ecosystem Surveys Science and Technology (SSGESST)**

The SSGESST Chair, Bill Karp, informed SCICOM that his first session would focus on linkages between Expert Groups and the Science Plan. Expert Group Chairs had been asked to present reports including the perspective of the study groups and workshops operating under those groups and this would reduce the number of reports.

The meeting was informed that SSGESST would be represented by Dave Reid at the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) meeting in Brussels. This meeting has ToRs very similar to SSGESST and aims at reviewing surveys in the ICES area in order to streamline them and make them more efficient. Concern was raised that it may be too late for ICES to influence the process; a good strategy would be needed. The EC might have a different approach and view of what the ecosystem needs and also they might have a shorter time frame.

**Action:** Bill Karp to arrange a meeting with David Samson and others and inform them that the ICES Science Programme needs to be involved. It was also suggested to outline a paper for SSGESST attendees to comment on. If possible this paper should be made available before the Wednesday meeting of SSGESST. Bill Karp was asked to contact Mike Sissenwine to ensure that communication with ACOM is established. Bill Karp was asked to report back to SCICOM on Saturday.

### **Steering Group on Ecosystem Functions (SSGEF)**

The SSGEF Chair, Pierre Petitgas, informed SCICOM of his plan to work on linkages between EGs and the Science Plan using a newly established coding system for easier reference. A new setup for the second SSGEF meeting would be attempted with expert groups feeding into a topical session on a crosscutting issue: “Individual, population and community level growth, feeding and reproduction; the quality of habitats and the threats to them and Indicators of ecosystem health”. SSGEF will evaluate the new procedure for future years.

### **Steering Group on Regional Sea Programmes (SSGRSP)**

The SSGRSP Chair's vision for the meeting is to inspire and bring across appreciation for the EG Chairs and their work throughout the year. There have been some issues regarding attendance of Chairs to their own EGs meetings. SSGRSP is not very big, and therefore it will not be necessary to restrict the number of reports presented at the SSG meeting. Four 'Integrated Assessment' (IA) groups will present their work. The first SSGRSP meeting will be extended by a lunch meeting with some of the IA EG Chairs to have a discussion on benchmarking the integration. Prior to the meeting Dariusz Fey made an overview of the remit of Expert Groups and their resolutions in relation to the Science Plan. Co-operation between LMEs and ICES expert groups will be encouraged and it is felt that this will be facilitated through a new workshop planned for July 2011 and a proposed Theme Session for the ASC 2011.

A discussion followed on the recent, more general problems for travel funding and financing the work of EG Chairs. With the new mandate of SCICOM, Category 2 resolutions are no longer approved by the delegates, and thus the bonus is on SCICOM delegates to promote EGs activities and facilitate funding of chairs and participants. The SCICOM Chair supported linking the work of ICES with activities outside the network as a way of facilitating travel support to EG members. In addition, synergies with nationally-funded activities will help support expert group activities. SCICOM may need to monitor the situation to see if a strategy to support EGs needs to be developed.

### **Steering Group on Human Interactions on Ecosystems (SSGHIE)**

Since this was his first year as Chair of SSGHIE, Erik Olsen had maintained the traditional setup of the Wednesday SSG meeting with presentations from all EGs. He believed this was necessary to ensure all EG Chairs attended and to develop EG synergies. The two main items in the agenda were highlighted as the Strategic Initiative on Area-based Science and Management (SIASM), including the STIG MSP November workshop in Lisbon, and Aquaculture. A meeting dealing with a planned Study Group on socio-economics in relation to aquaculture had been scheduled during the ASC.

The SCICOM Chair thanked the five SSG Chairs for their presentations.

### **SCICOM membership of SSGs**

The list of current SSG membership (Doc 10b) was presented. The following new members were appointed as SSG members:

SSGSUE: Maarten Åström, Daniel Duplisea and Simon Jennings

SSGESST: Mark Dickey-Collas and Brian MacKenzie

SSGRSP: Georg Kornilovs

The SCICOM Chair encouraged members to consider potential candidates, who might be interested in taking on the leadership of SSGEF, SSGESST, and SSGRSP in 2012, as the terms of the current Chairs expires next year. A strategy will be discussed at the May 2011 SCICOM meeting.

## **6.3 ASC Award Selection Committee**

The PUBCOM Chair, Pierre Pepin, presented the Committee's proposal to establish an "Early Career Scientist" Award system. In May 2010 SCICOM recommended that the number of "Best Newcomer" awards be increased from one to three. The Awards Committee proposed that the award be redefined as the Early



Career Scientist Award and that up to three Early Career Scientist Awards will be conferred each year. The prize for the Award is a framed certificate and a voucher for up to 1,000 €, to be used to cover costs of participating in an ICES-sponsored activity, e.g., EG meeting, training course, workshop, symposium (but not an ASC).

A discussion followed on whether selection by age would be appropriate and also on the appropriateness of the number of awards and the prize. Some were uncomfortable using age as the only criterion as they felt it would be seen as age discrimination of scientists who had engaged in marine science at a late stage in their careers. Others were favourable towards the age criterion as they felt that the driver behind the Early Career Scientist Award proposal was to increase the involvement of young scientists in ICES activities and work. There was overall agreement that, if impractical to do it in any other way, the age criterion should be implemented.

There was further agreement not to make a distinction between the poster and the presentation award. The quality of science for posters is generally very high.

The Awards Committee might want to consider an upgrade of the two other merit awards (best poster and presentation).

It was brought to the attention of the committee, that SIF money cannot be used for the Early Career Scientist Award. Money allocated for SIs cannot be reallocated without approval of the Council.

**Decision:** As the new awards require the approval of Council the implementation of the new “Early Career Scientist” award would be postponed until 2011. SCICOM recommends to the Awards Committee that they request an increase of the funding for awards for future years through a Category 4 resolution to be submitted to Council

**Action:** The Awards Committee was asked to make a final recommendation to SCICOM.

**Action:** SCICOM members were encouraged to consider candidates for the Prix d’Excellence Award (which will be presented in 2011 / every third year) and for the Outstanding Achievement, which is awarded once a year.

A Selection Committee for this year’s awards was appointed, chaired by Pierre Pepin. The following SCICOM members volunteered to be part of the selection process for the ICES ASC merit awards: Niall Ó Maoiléidigh, Ólafur Astthórsson, Steve Cadrin, Simon Jennings, and Einar Svendsen.

## 6.4 Theme session reporting and assessment

### Theme session Reporting

Pierre Petitgas presented Doc 13 and introduced the topic. Currently there are no proceedings from the ASC, except the conference DVD and the theme session reports publicised in the ICES Annual Report. He considered that a Proceedings document would be a helpful document to assess SCICOM’s delivery of the Science Plan in a visible and integrative way. Two options were suggested for consideration by SCICOM:

- Theme Session Chairs produce a synthesis of several pages with figures, which serves as conference proceedings

- Speakers are asked for extended (2 page) abstract/ summary of their presentations. The extended handbook then serves as proceedings.

Concerns were raised as to whether a Proceedings document may be considered by some journals as a formal publication, especially if original graphs and tables are included. This could lead to problems if the data is then submitted to other journals as original research. Some members were concerned that the first suggestion may overburden conveners. These are already asked to submit a report of their session, which often focuses more on listing the speakers and their presentations rather than summarising the scientific messages coming through the session.

**Action:** In conclusion, a template for theme session reports will be developed by the secretariat with a view to encourage conveners to produce an extended report with session highlights and evaluate the session contents in relation to the Science Plan. Further to that, ICES will continue to allow authors to produce extended abstracts instead of papers. The Chair thanked Pierre Petitgas for putting thought into this.

#### **Mapping EG activities and ASC Theme Sessions to the Science Plan**

A recurrent issue for SCICOM is the assessment of expert groups delivery against the objectives of the Science Plan. As Terms of Reference (ToR) are modified each year it is easy to lose track of progress against objectives. SCICOM agreed that mapping the ToRs of EGs against Science Plan topics could be useful to assess delivery. This could be done by the EG when developing their ToRs. It could also facilitate synthesis and the extraction of information from EG reports.

It was suggested that a simple spreadsheet record could be developed with the purpose of mapping Science Plan topics with EG ToRs. The same spreadsheet could be used to map ASC Theme Sessions to the Science Plan.

**Decision:** SCICOM agreed that this was a useful and straightforward exercise and decided to take this on for the current ASC theme sessions and the past two years under the direction of the Secretariat.

## **7 Theme Session proposals for ASC 2011**

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The setting of a deadline for theme session proposals provided SCICOM with a mechanism to assess proposals in a fair and thorough way. The SCICOM Chair thanked the Secretariat for setting up a rating tool on the SharePoint site which allowed members to review and comment on proposals prior to the ASC meeting. Two additional proposals generated via the SSG meetings had been announced and these would still be considered.

Involvement of the local host of the ASC 2011 was ensured by appointing Dariusz Fey (the Polish SCICOM representative) as Chair the ASC Theme Session Committee. The SCICOM Chair also invited the BONUS programme leaders to submit theme session proposals given the focus of the 2011 ASC.

The following SCICOM members volunteered to join the ASC 2011 Theme Session Group: Dariusz Fey (Chair), Mark Dickey-Collas (the Netherlands), Brian MacKenzie (Denmark), Daniel Duplisea (Canada), Oleg Lapshin (Russia), Christian Mölmann (Germany), Niall O'Maoileidigh (Ireland), Simon Jennings (UK), Einar Svendsen (Norway).

**Action:** The ASC Theme Session Group was asked to review the proposals and to suggest a programme of up to 19 theme sessions for final approval by SCICOM on Saturday, 25 September.

**Decision:** For following years, SCICOM will fix the deadline for proposals to the first week of September. Proposals from SSGs will not be considered for the following year.

## **8 Implementing the Science Plan: Procedure for Expert Groups review**

The SCICOM Chair presented Doc 15, a proposal for an Expert Group review system that would provide SCICOM with a tool to manage EG activities. The Chair reflected that the coding exercise discussed earlier in the day would reflect what science EGs conduct, but would not be useful to evaluate their delivery. Currently the only mechanism to do this is through the annual reports of EGs. However, SCICOM needs a more systematic procedure to assess the delivery of the ICES science plan through the EGs. Such procedure would be useful to:

- Manage our research portfolio,
- Recommend priorities for new EG,
- Contribute to the steering of existing EG,
- Ensure that the EG focus their work on the Science Plan needs and,
- Facilitate the transfer of knowledge from science to advice.

SCICOM agreed that this exercise was necessary and that it could be an opportunity for EGs to showcase their work. The following comments and suggestions were made in relation to the contents of the draft questionnaire:

- A suggestion was made to add an additional bullet point "Outreach beyond ICES".
- Question 2 may be misunderstood and lead to windy responses. Rephrasing will help focus the answer.
- An additional question asking what additional expertise the EG requires to deliver the ToRs would be useful.
- An additional question on how to improve the science was suggested, particularly along the lines of what has not been addressed and how could that be done in the future.
- The questionnaire should also target ACOM groups to identify gaps in science.

SSGRSP and SSGESST had run the questionnaire as a pilot project among their EGs. The format had worked well, but getting people to respond had been difficult. None of the EGs had considered this a threat. It was discussed that the evaluation should be balanced by a bottom-up incentive to move EGs in other directions. It was reflected that a review process would be a positive development as EGs will be able to focus their work better, providing that the task is not onerous and streamlined.

The SSGESST Chair proposed that new EGs be given a fixed three- or five-year timeline. With a fixed term you would only need to review EGs at the completion of their term.

It was agreed that the evaluation exercise was for EGs only and not study groups or workshops, and that it will be best as an online questionnaire.

**Action:** The SCICOM Chair will modify the questionnaire in consultation with the Business group. Implementation will be explored by the Secretariat through the SharePoint.

## **9 Update on SCICOM activities**

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### **9.1 Cooperation with other organisations (HoS)**

HoS presented Doc 16. Some items required deliberations.

The ICES Secretary for Scientific Cooperation presented a request from the Waterborne Technology Platform (one of the MARCOM+ partners) to the MARCOM+ coordinator. The coordinator was asked to explore the opportunities of joining forces with the EMAR2RES consortium and reply to the FP7 call "Science in Society" targeted at marine and maritime research networks. EMAR2RES is a parallel initiative to MARCOM+ aiming at creating a maritime science forum in Europe. The initial idea as suggested by the Waterborne TP, is to expand the MARCOM+ initiative by bridging it with the EMAR2RES action plan and explaining the complexity of marine and maritime research governance in Europe to the general public. SCICOM was asked for approval to engage the ICES Secretariat, as the MARCOM+ leader in this initiative.

SCICOM addressed the risk of the Secretariat competing for funding with national institutes. It was explained that in general this call, similar to the MARCOM+ two years ago, is not directed to individual institutes and it would be difficult for any institute or consortium to bid against it. Should such an overlap emerge the Secretariat will cease its engagement in this initiative.

The issue of SCICOM's increasingly proactive role in the European Marine and Maritime Science and Technology Forum should be reflected on and readdressed as the MARCOM+ progress develops.

SCICOM addressed the status of scientific cooperation with NAMMCO. SCICOM felt that current cooperation was sufficiently effective and not in need of a formal MoU. Bureau has been informed of this view.

The MoU with FAO and its scope was discussed. The existing MoU is probably sufficient to develop cooperation but it has at times been difficult to engage FAO. We need an opportunity to review the MoU and see if there is a need to update it with more specifics. Climate change is high on FAO's agenda. ICES Data Centre and ACOM have close links.

**Action:** Bill and Manuel to review the MoU with FAO.

The meeting with PICES to kick-off the Study Group on Strategic Cooperation was scheduled for the ASC week. The report of the meeting is in Annex 2.

### **9.2 Symposia 2010–2012 (progress report)**

The ICES/PICES/FAO Symposium on "Climate Change Effects on Fish and Fisheries: Forecasting Impacts, Assessing Ecosystem Responses, and Evaluating Management Strategies" held in Sendai, Japan in April generated 60 manuscripts of remarkably good quality. Only 10 manuscripts had to be rejected so it will be necessary to allocate funding for additional pages in the proceedings volume of the JMS.

The ICES Symposium on "Making the Most of Fisheries Information – Underpinning Policy, Management and Science", held in Galway, Ireland in August 2010, was a

very successful symposium. Collaboration between ICES, NOAA, IMR and the Irish Marine Institute worked very well. There were plenty of discussions and interactions between scientists, industry and other interest groups in identifying research goals. The process of synthesising the outcomes is in progress. Innovative perspectives were presented and the challenge would be to include them in more traditional scientific outputs. The symposium was seen as a first step of a series of conferences.

The 26th Lowell Wakefield Symposium on “Ecosystems 2010: Global Progress on Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management” to be held in Anchorage, USA, from 8-11 November 2010 is well under way.

The 5th International Zooplankton Production Symposium to be held in Pucon, Chile, from 14–18 March 2011 is progressing. The earthquake in Chile hit the laboratory of the local organizer Ruben Escribano in spring, but despite this setback Dr Escribano is determined to carry the project through.

The ICES/NAFO Symposium on the Variability of the North Atlantic and its Marine Ecosystems during 2000-2009 to be held in Santander, Spain, from 10-12 May 2011 is about to set up the webpage with links to the registration and abstract submission site at ICES. Setting up the SSC is currently in progress. A symposium flyer is on display at the ASC in Nantes.

The symposium on “Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observation and prediction” to be held in Seattle, Washington, USA, from 22-26 May 2011 is progressing. A more regular exchange of information with the ICES secretariat was requested and has been acted upon. Preparations are well on the way.

The ICES/NASCO Symposium on 'Salmon at Sea: Scientific Advances and their Implications for Management' to be held in La Rochelle, France, from 11–13 October 2011 will be further developed during the ASC week.

The planned symposium on Carrying Capacity is still pending as it had to be postponed twice. SCICOM agreed that unless plans are forthcoming it would have to be removed from the list. After discussions with the Convenors at the ASC it was agreed to drop the plans for this symposium. In its place the Chair of the SSGEF will be approached to explore whether an alternative event/ structure need to be organised to address this scientific issue.

The 2012 Early Career Scientist conference will be held under heading “Oceans of Change” as agreed by the young and active SSC. Helen Findlay (UK) was appointed Secretary to the SSC and Ignacio Catalan of IMEDEA (ES) will represent the local organising committee. A site inspection and selection of possible venues was made in May by the ICES secretariat and the local organizers. During the ASC there will be a meeting of the SSC.

**Decision:** The planned ICES symposium on “Carrying Capacity what does it mean in a changing Ocean?” to be convened by M.F. Borges, J. Rice and S. MacKinnell, was removed from the calendar.

### **9.3 Review and evaluation of projects funded by SIF**

Some of the relevant activities were already dealt with under different headings, e.g. SAHFOS. 600K DKK were allocated to support the strategic initiatives as well as co-operation with other organizations such as PICES. More funding will be requested by the SI on Biodiversity Science (SIBAS), in addition to the funding granted by the Bu-

reau in February 2010. There is no calendar year limit for spending the funding currently available; that is it can be transferred into 2011.

#### 9.4 ICES Data Management Group (WGDIM)

WGDIM Co-Chair, Helge Sagen, presented the report from WGDIM. The SCICOM Chair thanked Helge and congratulated WGDIM for taking on strategic responsibilities on data issues on behalf of ICES. SCICOM took note of the new data policy for the ICES Data Centre. There were no objections made during the meeting. The DC works closely with the advisory services and will look into expanding its offers to, for instance, the Strategic Initiatives.

### 10 EG Recommendations to SCICOM

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Over the summer the Secretariat had cross-linked recommendations from EGs to other EGs and entities inside/outside ICES. Doc 19 presented a number of EG recommendations addressed to SCICOM. A discussion followed on how to deal with these recommendations. There was agreement that the exercise of crosslinking recommendations was very useful. However, for SCICOM to be able to make significant progress the recommendations should lead to a clear action, i.e. we would like to form a workshop, EG, propose a ToR or theme session. Generic statements to the attention of SCICOM are welcome, but not easy to implement.

**Action:** The Secretariat will revise the current guidelines for EG recommendations to have a clear action and justification.

WGMME is an ACOM group suggesting to SCICOM a particular science needed. If SCICOM role includes (as it is the case) the filling of research gaps it should have a way to respond to this.

A suggestion was made for SCICOM to establish a group to look at these recommendations. Maybe in the ACOM/SCICOM dialogue we could have a discussion on how to address this.

**Action:** Secretariat to contact EG Chairs of recommendations addressed to SCICOM with a response.

#### Joint SCICOM/ACOM Strategic Initiative on Biodiversity Advice and Science (SIBAS)

While this issue was in the agenda for the joint SCICOM/ACOM meeting, Simon Jennings provided the Committee with an update of the Strategic Initiative on Biodiversity Advice and Science (SIBAS). SIBAS met prior to the ASC to move the strategic initiative forward. Based on the SIBAS document discussed at the SCICOM May meeting (SCICOM MAY Doc 14) the group developed specific actions, including ToRs for EGs under SSGEF, SSGSUE and ACOM. SSG Chairs were asked to read the background document and Mark Tasker and Simon Jennings would be pleased to attend SSG meetings during the ASC to provide additional information.

The SIBAS initiative intends to follow two parallel objectives. The first is a tactical one to support the immediate political drivers and promote ICES capacity in providing biodiversity advice (MSFD, CBD). The second is aimed at coordinating and providing a forum for scientific research to address biodiversity issues.

The first major action of the SI will be a workshop on 'Biodiversity indicators for marine management' (WKBIMM) planned for 9–11 February 2011. Additional workshops are expected in coming years.

The SSGRSP Chair informed SIBAS that SSGRSP would have a lot to contribute. WGIAB has a strong profile in biodiversity and the BONUS BEAST project would provide a good link with HELCOM in the biodiversity strategic initiative. Funding would however be need to ensure these players attend the meeting.

The SSGHIE Chair, Erik Olsen, invited Simon Jennings to attend the STIG MSP.

The SCICOM Chair congratulated Simon Jennings and SIBAS on the progress made. The request of funding for the WKBIMM will require a Category 4 resolution.

#### **24 September (Friday): Joint SCICOM/ACOM meeting (16:00-19:00)**

- A. Summary of Strategic (and other) Initiatives
  - 1. SCICOM/ACOM Strategic Initiative on Area-based Science and Management
  - 2. SCICOM/ACOM Strategic Initiative on Stock Assessment Methods
  - 3. SCICOM/ACOM Strategic initiative on Biodiversity
  - 4. SCICOM Strategic Initiative on Climate Change
  - 5. Baltic Initiative
  - 6. Update of the ecosystem overviews and linkage to advice
  - 7. Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)
- B. ICES Training Group (ITG)
- C. Communications Strategy
- D. Theme session proposals 2011 (for info) and beyond (for action)
- E. Symposia 2012 and beyond (for info)
- F. Review of survey evaluation under Data Collection Framework (DCF)
- G. Status of Dialogue Meeting on "Implementing the ecosystem approach in the management of fisheries"

## 25 September (Saturday): SCICOM meeting (9:00–18:00)

### 11 Summary from SCICOM Steering Group meetings

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#### 11.1 SSGEF

Pierre Petitgas informed SCICOM of a new way of keeping track of a Working Group by coding its ToRs. The code includes three digits extracted from the Science Plan: theme, topic and sub-topic. This coding provides additional transparency so that Working Groups may see a better link between their ToR and the Science Plan.

A topical reporting session was run this year as part of the SSGEF meeting on “Individual, population and community level growth, feeding and reproduction, the quality of habitats and the threats to them and Indicators of ecosystem health”. This topic raises a number of additional cross-cutting issues:

- Compilation of data maps and time series
- Methods for analysis of spatio-temporal patterns
- Habitat characterizations : constructing indicators
- Integration of results

Each Working Group tried to address one issue that was interesting under this generic topic. While some EG understood the process some had difficulty in understanding the concept. Scientific presentations were made and crosscutting issues identified. There was some participation from outside the SSG this year, and this should be encouraged.

There was no time for proper discussion of each Working Group’s activities. The groups need this and it was agreed that a new reporting format for EGs was needed. While outsider participation in SSG meetings is welcome the EGs need a space to discuss the functioning of their SSG.

In 2011 SSGEF will work by correspondence in 2011 to:

- a) Inspire Expert Groups to work together on cross-cutting issues of the Science Plan and in particular on climate change, habitats characterization, spatio-temporal analysis and results integration;
- b) Organize a topical session at the 2011 ASC to address one cross-cutting issue of the Science Plan;
- c) Implement a procedure via the coding of ToRs to monitor the scientific activity of Expert Groups in relation to the Science Plan;
- d) Propose a template for the reporting of Expert Groups at the ASC;

#### 11.2 SSGHIE

SSGHIE found it difficult to move away from individual EG reporting, because without such an opportunity Expert Group Chairs may not attend the meeting. Careful planning and interaction with EG chairs is key to ensure participation. Two changes need to be reported: WGICZM will be renamed WGMPCZM and its remit will move towards marine spatial planning, aligning itself better towards the needs of the SI-ASM strategic initiative. SGONS has been dissolved as per expectations, following their meeting and resulting peer-reviewed publication.



In 2010 SSGHIE devoted substantial support for the SIASM. Work was also initiated on the socioeconomic consequences of environmental effects of aquaculture (SGSA). A need for stronger cooperation with aquaculture sciences was identified.

SSGHIE identified a need to increase collaboration between its EGs as well as with EGs in other SSGs. A matrix of collaborations may be useful to track developments. Stronger collaboration between SSG Chairs may be needed to achieve this, as well as between SCICOM and ACOM. Collaboration with outside organizations (e.g. PICES, EAS) should be facilitated.

In coming months the SSG will particularly work on assessing the cumulative impacts of human activities (e.g. Contamination, eutrophication, habitat change) on marine ecosystems. In terms of procedures, EG chairs are likely to seek more direct guidance and feedback on their ToRs, reports and activities. To address this need SCICOM may require an internal review process of EG reports, and a proper mapping of EG activities against the Science Plan objectives (as suggested by SSGEF).

### 11.3 SSGRSP

The Chair presented some of the highlights from the Working Groups, with particular focus on their contribution to the building of integrated assessments. A benchmark workshop to IEA will guide the process (expected November 2011). The transfer of the IEA work to stock assessment groups is a priority. Integration with socio-economic sciences is an emerging area of work, led by groups in the Baltic region. For this reason WKIMM has evolved into a Study Group. The participation of additional stock assessment people will be a necessity to turn the SG into a success.

The development of collaborations with the GEF LME projects has been a highlight of the year, with the creation of WGLMEBP. Its first meeting took place at IOC/UNESCO in Paris on 6–7 July 2010. There is an obvious need for scientific leadership in the cooperation. A theme session on this topic was proposed for 2011.

The vision of SSGRSP for 2011 include:

- Interactions between IEA groups – focus on benchmarking, guidelines and tangible products for advice
- Development of Ecosystem Health Issues – biodiversity, monitoring of contaminants and biological effects (AC and guidelines)
- Couple ecological-economical modelling
- Continue discussing the addition of new regional seas programmes
- Open further discussions on multidisciplinary initiatives
- Continue communication with external organisations with a regional interest
- Encourage publications and outputs from EGs, develop entrepreneurial initiatives to fund activities, market ICES work more efficiently, encourage the participation of non-ICES scientists (i.e. BONUS)

SSGRSP recommendations

- WebEx meetings between the SG Chairs to discuss common issues starting up in 2011.
- Stronger interactions with SSGSUE and SSGHIE

- A discussion on reconstructing the meetings in next ASC, including interaction between the SGs, meeting facilities, marketing of meetings to draw a wider audience.
- During the SSGRSP meeting in ASC a discussion with BONUS representatives started to investigate if its possible to create for example ICES Workshops based on BONUS projects to facilitate creation of advice based on their results. It is recommended that this discussion continues
- HELCOM secretariat was represented in SSGRSP and showed interest in SSGRSP progress in Integrated Assessment. Communication with HELCOM groups working on Holistic Assessments should be investigated.

#### 11.4 SSGESST

The Chair reported on the vision for the SSG and provided highlights from the Working Groups. He noted that bringing the survey groups and the technology community together is a valuable exercise. The SSG is providing a unique forum to facilitate exchange, communication and integration. EG Chairs are now regularly attending the ASC, which is helpful in the development of the community. He noted the importance of maintaining a generic connection with ACOM, and of ensuring that when ACOM takes forward an item on behalf of ICES the scientific troops are rallied behind.

He presented the overarching ToRs of the SSG:

- Develop, maintain, standardize, consolidate and advance assessment surveys as necessary and appropriate;
- Encourage and support creativity and innovation which focuses on applications of advanced technologies for observing, monitoring and surveying marine ecosystems;
- Improve and advance existing survey capabilities to develop and implement integrated surveys and monitoring systems in support of the EAM through fishing gear technology innovations, innovative technology and other approaches; and
- Evaluate and mitigate the impacts of fishing on marine ecosystems through innovative conservation engineering, with a particular focus on bycatch reduction and development of fishing and survey gears which minimise fuel consumption and habitat damage;
- Encourage cooperation and collaboration with the fishing industry and other stakeholders

For the coming year new ToRs have been added to Survey EGs:

- Prepare methods for delivery of the following information to assessment working groups in 2012:
  - Proportion of fish larger than the mean size of first sexual maturation
  - Mean maximum length of fish found in research vessel surveys
  - 95th % percentile of the fish length distribution observed
- The information should be provided for all major fish stocks covered by the survey.

In addition, WGIPS and WGNEACS will look at combining from 2012 onwards, and WGISUR will take broader responsibilities to focus on "improvements to

assessment surveys as well as migration towards ecosystem surveys". A workshop on survey analysis and review (WKSAR) was proposed which could provide a useful connection with ACOM work. In this context SSGESST identified a number of important needs regarding the interaction with ACOM:

- Engaging SCICOM EGs in the STECF survey reform process, both present and future, is a must.
- Improve the interactions WGFTFB/ ACOM including how to best communicate with each other is an important consideration. EGs have one foot on the science side and one foot in the advisory side and this should be better recognised.

SSGESST also noted that there was a significant value in meeting during ASCs, while bearing in mind that not everyone attends the annual conference of ICES.

### 11.5 SSGSUE

The Chair introduced the objectives of the SSG and described the EGs that fall under its remit. He reported on a number of research highlights from Working Groups. He noted that the publication of Science papers by WGEVO in the recent past (Jorgensen *et al.* 2007, *Science*, 318: 1247–1248; Jorgensen *et al.*, 2008, *Science*, 320: 48–50) raised the profile of ICES in ways we must continue to explore.

He noted with concern that WGOOS was ending, partially because of concerns over the GOOS's role in driving the ocean observation agenda. Discussions have been initiated with the leaders of the WG to identify ways of covering this niche for ICES. In this context he noted that WGOOFE had done well, producing a dramatic "ICES Insight" article, which raised the issue of lack of connectivity between data producers and data users. The pamphlet is given out to meteorologists and climatologists and has been found useful.

Two new EGs have been created: SGMPAN on designing marine protected area networks in relation to climate change, and WKISS on implications of stock structure. The SSG has also been busy with discussions on operational models and on how to play a meaningful role in a science area where ICES is not the lead. Like other SSG chairs SSGSUE noted the need to interact better with other SSGs, in particular with SSGRSP.

## 12 SCICOM Strategic Initiative on Climate Change

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The co-Chair Luis Valdes attended this agenda item and provided a historical perspective on the origins, current status, and future vision for the SSICC. Given that the current mandate of the group expires in 2010, and that it includes "...to start up transit of ICES towards the establishment of a programme on Climate Change", he presented a roadmap for the second phase of the initiative.

The roadmap included a cross-cutting, multidisciplinary, and strategic coordination group formed by: EG chairs, representation from SCICOM, ACOM, Bureau and Secretariat, and Invited guests from external organisations. The SSICC would operate in a cross-cutting manner like the other SIs. His main conclusions were:

- Climate Change science is a priority for ICES, as this is recognised in the new ICES Science Plan.
- ICES needs to reinforce its role and visibility in Climate Change in the North Atlantic if ICES wants to be perceived as a key player in this topic.

- ICES needs to integrate, align, and coordinate the work of the expert groups in climate change towards common and concrete objectives.
- An ICES strategic group coordinating ICES activities in climate change is necessary to implement and maximize ICES capacities and opportunities in climate change.

The SSICC encourages ICES to establish a programme (or Strategic Initiative) in Climate Change as the main instrument of ICES work in climate change. Therefore, the SSICC recommended ICES to adopt a formal resolution from ICES governing bodies (SCICOM) to establish such a cross-cutting initiative on climate change on the basis of the roadmap prepared.

The Chair thanked Luis Valdes in particular, and his co-Chair Jürgen Alheit, for their hard and committed work in implementing the ICES Climate Change agenda. He assured them that SCICOM would consider their roadmap in deciding a way forward for the SSICC. He reflected that the SSICC was created before the restructuring of the ICES science programme and that the process of integration in the new structure had not been an easy and smooth one. He informed SCICOM that Luis Valdes would not be involved in a second phase of SSICC due to his change in affiliation, but that he hoped he would be able to stay connected from his position in IOC.

In discussion the Chair of SCICOM noted that the roadmap prepared by the SSICC would give the group a structured and coordinating role to bring the science of ICES together. At the same time SCICOM reviewed the achievements of the Joint PICES/ICES Working Group on Forecasting Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish [WGFCCIFS], and noted a number of synergies with the objectives of the SSICC. SCICOM reflected that the lack of oceanographers and climatologists in ICES structures limit our ability to contribute to the climate change research agenda, especially in the growing area of ocean acidification. Engagement with PICES, which has a stronger pool of environmental scientists, may be helpful in this context. During the discussion consensus emerged to combine the strengths of ICES and PICES.

SCICOM proposed that the ICES Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (whose planned activities conclude in December 2010), and the ICES-PICES Working Group on Forecasting Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish (WGFCCIFS, whose mandate expires at the end of 2011), be combined to create an ICES-PICES Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (SSICC), which would build on the successes of both initiatives.

SCICOM requested the Chairs of ICES-SSICC and P/ICES WGFCCIFS to develop a plan for a revised P/ICES Strategic Initiative on Climate Change, with specific terms of reference, to be tabled at the 2011 meetings of the ICES SCICOM and PICES Science Board, either in May/June or in September/October. This process will be steered and coordinated between the chairs of the WGFCCIFS (Hollowed, Barange, Kim, Loeng) and the co-chair of SSICC (Alheit). Membership of the new structure will have to be revisited to encourage sustained participation and ensure active connexions with other regional and international organisations.

**Decision:** SCICOM decided that a cross-cutting programme on Climate Change must continue as the main instrument of ICES work on climate change, to be named the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Scientific Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (SSICC II).

**Action:** SCICOM requested that the Chairs of ICES-SSICC and P/ICES WGFCCIFS develop a plan for a revised P/ICES Strategic Initiative on Climate Change, with spe-

cific terms of reference, to be tabled at the 2011 meetings of the ICES SCICOM and PICES Science Board, either in May/June or in September/October.

### 19 September (Sunday) SCICOM meeting (9:00–18:00)

## 13 Review and approval of Resolutions

### 13.1 Category 1 resolutions (Publications)

The PUBCOM Chair, Pierre Pepin, presented the Category 1 draft resolutions.

The “GO-Ship Manual - Determination of nutrients in seawater with high precision and inter-comparability using gas-segmented Continuous Flow Analysers”, proposed by ICES-IOC SGONS for publication in the ICES Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences series, was not approved. PUBCOM feels that the material was already available online and in a format that could be referred to. PUBCOM was not convinced by the argument that duplication of this material would facilitate the global distribution of the material or accelerate its broad use. CRRs are primarily published online anyway, and printed copies are only available at a cost to the user.

All the remaining proposals for Category 1 resolutions were supported:

Resolution	Title	Pages	Recommendation
2010/1/SGONS01	The manual of “GO-Ship Manual - Determination of nutrients in seawater with high precision and inter-comparability using gas-segmented Continuous Flow Analysers”	130	Already published online: single chapter of larger manual: duplication (NOT recommended)
2010/1/WGHABD02	Harmful Algal Blooms and bio-toxins in the ICES area	80	Already exists as resolution 2009/1/SSGHIE01
2010/1/WGEXT02	Effects of Marine Sediments on the Marine Environment	150	Recommend acceptance
2010/1/WGMME03	Framework for surveillance and monitoring of marine mammals within the ICES area	100	Recommend acceptance
2010/1/WGPDMO04	The Fish Disease Index (FDI)	50	Recommend acceptance
2010/1/SGHERWAY05	The evaluation of assessment and management strategies of the western herring stocks	200	Recommend acceptance
2010/1/ACOM06	The history of ACFM	150	Recommend acceptance

WGMME: For this publication PUBCOM recommended a peer review handled by the ACOM Chair or any of the Vice-Chairs.

SCICOM/ACOM is responsible for the scientific review of TIMES and CRR publications and SCICOM needs to define a structure in terms of peer review.

**Action:** It was agreed to revisit this question at the SCICOM midterm meeting in May.

### Category 2

A deadline of 1 October was agreed for SSGs to finalise their Category 2 resolutions. This will allow a proper assessment and cross-checking of these, which would then be approved via web conference. Members not able to attend would be asked to send

their comments to the Secretariat. This will be the first full SCICOM web conference and would be a good test case. If necessary a voting system will be set up.

### 13.2 Category 3 resolutions (Symposia)

The HoS presented a draft resolution for the joint ICES/PICES Early Career Scientist Conference scheduled for April 2012 at Palma de Mallorca, Spain, with Adi Kellermann (Denmark) and Stewart (Skip) McKinnell (Canada) as Conveners. A Scientific Steering Group has been established with members nominated from ICES SCICOM and PICES Science Board to assist the Conveners in planning the Symposium. So far, ICES had made funds available in the order of DKK 400,000 and NOAA had agreed to contribute USD 50,000. Additional contributions were expected from PICES and the Regional Government of Mallorca.

Total costs had been estimated at approx. EUR 180,000. Two options were currently considered. Option 1, covering travel expenses, and option 2 without covering travel expenses. For option 1 additional funding would be needed and Bureau may be asked to consider additional funding. It may be wise to wait for PICES to inform us of their contribution before approaching other sponsors.

**Decision:** The resolution was approved by SCICOM.

#### **Additional requests**

The ICES-cosponsored "Symposium on Effects of Climate Change on Fish and Fisheries" has requested an increase in the symposium volume size from 250 to 500 pages. This is equivalent to a budget increase of DKK 103,000.

**Decision:** The increase was approved by SCICOM.

The ICES-cosponsored "ICES/NAFO Symposium on the Variability of the North Atlantic and its Marine Ecosystems" had also requested additional pages. The resolution was passed in 2008 already noted that the size of the science volume was unknown at the time.

**Decision:** SCICOM approved the request for additional pages for the symposium volume.

SCICOM was informed that there were funds available in the publications budget. In terms of procedure, SCICOM might consider asking PUBCOM to handle these requests directly in the future.

### 13.3 Category 4 (SCICOM decisions that will require Secretariat Action)

Simon Jennings presented a Category 4 resolution for a workshop which would be the kick-off activity for the SIBAS initiative. The Strategic Initiative was asking for a budget in the order of € 50,000 to bring in the right participation, including participants from the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It might be that participants will be able to cover their own expenses, but it would be appropriate to offer funding given that the activity is an attempt from ICES to establish its niche in the biodiversity advice area.

SCICOM asked whether a list of people to be invited was available – not at present. Erik Olsen strongly supported the SIBAS initiative. In terms of funds use, Olsen noted that for the SIASM kick-off workshop SIF funds had only been used as a reserve, as participants were interested in the meeting even if they had to fund it themselves. Simon Jennings expressed concern that this approach may split the attendees

into a two-tier system, with funding extended only to people from client commissions and outside the ICES network.

The SCICOM Chair asked the committee to keep in mind that the additional funding was primarily to ensure adequate engagement of the community outside ICES. The added funding would be an investment and an opportunity to bring them onboard and help us establish an ICES's niche in biodiversity science and advice.

**Decision:** SCICOM approved that Simon Jennings redraft the Category 4 resolution taking onboard the comments made by SCICOM members.

## **14 Update on SCICOM activities (continued)**

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### **14.1 ICES Awards Committee**

The Chair of the Awards Committee, Ed Houde, presented the proposal for the "Early Career Scientist Presentation Awards", replacing the current "Best Newcomer Award". The change is seen as a more proactive effort to engage young and exciting scientists in the ICES network and its activities.

The AC proposes three ECSPAs each year (2 Oral, 1 Poster). The prize for the Awards would be a framed certificate and a voucher for 1,000 €, to be used to cover participation costs in an ICES-sponsored activity, i.e. Training Course, EG Meeting, Symposium, Workshop, but not the ASC. The voucher would have to be redeemed within 24 months of award. The awards need not be for a first-time presentation at an ASC by young scientist, contrary to the rules of the "Best Newcomer Award".

A Category 4 resolution would be presented to Council requesting an increase in the budget of the Awards Committee from 20,000 to 70,000 DKK, to accommodate the above changes.

In terms of eligibility, the Awards Committee recommended an age limit of 35 years at time of the ASC to qualify for the ECSAs. This would require a declaration of age at the time of abstract submission. The age criterion would emphasize that the awards are for young scientists.

**Decision:** Although some SCICOM members were concerned that age may not be the right criterion for the award, there was consensus in supporting the change. The committee selecting the awardees would need to be established well in advance of the ASC, preferably in May.

#### **Call for nominations for the two prestigious awards**

The AC Chair informed SCICOM that the Prix d'Excellence is awarded every three years. Members are encouraged to consider nominees for 2011. It is the intention of the AC to confer the Outstanding Achievement Award annually, and thus nominations are also encouraged. A formal call for nominations will be publicised in January.

SCICOM reflected that now that the upgrade to the Early Career Scientist Awards the AC may want to consider upgrading other merit awards. Cosponsoring from other organisations may be something for the Awards Committee to consider in the future.

The SCICOM Chair thanked the Chair of the Awards Committee, Edward Houde, for the presentation.

## 14.2 ASC Theme Sessions 2011

The Chair reminded SCICOM that the task of selecting the 2011 theme sessions was delegated to a subcommittee, which was asked to consider the votes and rankings provided by SCICOM members in the build up to this meeting, as well as other issues such as disciplinary balance, gaps in the implementation of the science plan and local organisers' requests. Dariusz Fey, on behalf of the ASC subgroup, presented a proposal for the ASC 2011 theme session package. The ASC group had condensed 30 proposals into a package of 19 theme sessions. Following a short discussion a few adjustments were made and the proposal from the ASC group was approved by SCICOM. The final list of Theme Sessions is given in Annex 3.

### Invited speakers for next ASC

SCICOM members were asked to submit nominations for the ASC 2011 invited speakers to the Secretariat by October 1. The following keynote speakers were selected at the SCICOM web conference held on 7 October:

- Prof. Jan Marcin Węśławski, Department of Marine Ecology, Institute of Oceanology PAS, Poland
- Prof. Carl Folke, Department of Systems Ecology, Stockholm University, SE-106 91 Stockholm, Sweden
- Prof. Jordi Bascompte, Estación Biológica de Doñana, CSIC, Sevilla, Spain

The SCICOM Chair asked for feedback on whether the topics for theme sessions for the ASC 2012 should be pre-identified, so that the call would provide some additional steering from SCICOM. It was agreed that contrary to current procedure there will not be an automatic carry-over of theme session proposals; a previously-submitted proposal wishing to be considered again will need to be re-submitted.

The Secretariat will provide feedback to the conveners of theme sessions that were declined as to what they could do to improve their proposal, bearing in mind that the procedure is increasingly competitive.

## 14.3 ASC 2010 Evaluation and update on ASC 2011

The Meeting and Conference Coordinator, Görel Kjeldsen, presented Doc 32.

### Presentations

A total of 286 oral papers and 166 posters were presented in Nantes. There were 65 withdrawals/no-shows. 20 of these after the theme session timetables had been printed. The total number of accepted papers had been 351. This year the call for papers had been distributed to universities in the member countries and this had resulted in a high number of registrations by young scientists. Travel funds had been granted to 20 of these Early Career scientists thanks to decisions taken by SCICOM in 2010 to increase the budget for this purpose.

There are presenters who register very late and participants who register early but for some reason did not attend. Late cancellations meant that some conveners had to rearrange the timetables at last minute. Would it be possible to reduce the number of late cancellations by requesting authors to register early in the summer committing them to take part in the conference? It was agreed that no-shows are part of modern scientific conferences, often because presenters do not have assurance of their funding in advance. ICES may have to live with this reality. Perhaps conveners and chairs need to prepare for 'no shows' by having a couple of slides on science issues relevant



to their session. Stopping the session to “pass the time” allocated to no-shows is not encouraged as it breaks the flow of the session. Guidelines may need to be prepared for session convenors to deal with these situations.

To minimise the number of no-shows SCICOM agreed that the papers selection process should be completed as early as possible. Additional commitment from the presenters may be requested by asking them to register within 4 weeks of informing them of the acceptance of their papers. The question was raised on whether ICES is flexible with refunds. The answer from the Secretariat was that there is and will be flexibility with regard to refunds.

### **Extra meetings during the ASC**

An increased number of extra meetings are held during the ASC. Although ICES offers a one-day registration fee for participants to these extra meetings, some insist that they do not want to register to the conference. The Secretariat requested guidelines from SCICOM on how to deal with these requests.

**Decision:** There was a firm decision by SCICOM to insist on a one-day registration fee to be paid by participants attending meetings held in connection with the ASC. Satellite meetings benefit from the fact that the ASC is taking place at a substantial cost to the organisers. A 1-day registration fee is a way of contributing to the overall costs.

### **Recommendations for future ASCs**

- At present invited speakers are greeted by the Secretariat and receive an invitation to attend the conference dinner. The ICES President put forward a suggestion for a formal procedure for representatives of SCICOM to greet and look after the ASC invited speakers during the conference. SCICOM representatives will be appointed as hosts and contact persons to liaise with the keynote speakers and to invite them to lunch or dinner. The expenses incurred would be covered via the ASC income.
- Short presentations for posters are to be encouraged, i.e. one slide per poster, during theme sessions. SCICOM needs to send the message that we think that posters are as important as papers. Perhaps poster authors should be asked to submit a powerpoint slide of their poster to the session convenor(s).
- The Secretariat was asked to consider a paperless conference. The programme leaflet is a very useful document and it was also considered useful for participants to have hardcopies of timetables, but perhaps the ASC Handbook (or part of) could be replaced by a USB stick. It was suggested to have timetables on display outside the session rooms.
- The Secretariat should ensure that the “programme in brief” brochure uses an adequate font size and that the colour selection does not make reading ore difficult – in particular avoid using a dark colour over red/ dark background.
- The 2010 organiser suggested that registrants should be asked via the online registration if they intend to use the luncheon facilities (if a lunch package is offered), as lunches need to be pre-ordered and charged even if they are not sold to attendees. **Decision:** The Secretariat agreed to take this on.
- Some felt that we host too many parallel sessions and that participation in selected favourite sessions is becoming increasingly difficult.

### 2011 Annual Science Conference

The 2011 ASC will be held in Gdańsk at the Centrum Kongresowe of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic from Monday 19 to Friday 23 September. At the 2010 conference the French Delegates and the Polish (2011) and Norwegian (2012) organisers of forthcoming ASCs held a meeting to exchange information.

### 2012 Annual Science Conference

At the Bureau meeting of 17–18 February ICES unanimously welcomed the invitation from Norway to host the 2012 ASC in Bergen. The ICES Council will have to formally agree to the invitation, but according to ICES policies Norway should take the Bureau position as a positive decision on which they can base their reservation for conference facilities. This has been communicated in a letter from the General Secretary to the Norwegian Delegates of ICES.

SCICOM expressed their thanks to the local hosts and to the Secretariat for their effort in making the 2010 ASC such a successful conference.

## 14.4 Publications and Communications Group

### Publication activities

Publication activities in the past year had been strong and have reached a maximum relative to existing capacity by series editors and at the Secretariat. Concern was expressed at the large number and volume of outstanding resolutions for which no response had been received from contributors. PUBCOM *recommended* that all outstanding resolutions prior to 2008 be given a 6 month timeline for completion; otherwise the resolution should be considered to have lapsed and requiring a fresh application. Resolutions post-2008 should be granted a two-year timeline from the date of the resolution, after which the resolution will lapse. Newly submitted resolutions were evaluated and ranked by PUBCOM in terms of their relevance to the Science and Advisory Plans.

**Decision:** SCICOM supported the PUBCOM recommendation and asked PUBCOM to work with the Secretariat to carry them out.

PUBCOM *recommended* all series Editors to be reappointed:

- Emory Anderson (Cooperative Research Reports)
- Paul Keizer (Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences)
- Steve Feist (Identification Leaflets for Diseases)

All agreed to serve a second three (3) year term.

**Decision:** SCICOM approved the three-year extensions for all series editors.

### ICES Journal of Marine Science (IJMS)

The IJMS was faced with substantial challenges in 2009-2010 owing to a considerable backlog of accepted manuscripts. To clear the backlog, drastic action was taken (see SCICOM minutes of May 2010). It appears that the measures were successful and have prevented the backlog from reoccurring.

### Proposal for online journal

Simon Jennings had put forward a proposal to SCICOM that papers with sound science but lower impact could be published in an online journal as an extension to IJMS. PUBCOM considered the proposal and found that this would require signifi-

cant investment from ICES (none of the web journals are making money at this stage). Furthermore, the publisher indicated that this might damage the stature of IJMS by giving the appearance of supporting a two-tier publication path depending on the quality of the contributions. It was concluded that the establishment of an on-line journal would not benefit ICES in the long run and was not recommended.

**Decision:** SCICOM accepted the recommendation of PUBCOM, but would consider revisiting this issue at a later stage.

### **Communication Strategy/Outreach**

In relation to the Communication Strategy, concern was raised in PUBCOM that there is no clear definition of the role of PUBCOM. SCICOM, ACOM and the ICES Bureau must take this on.

For some time ICES has been concerned that the academic community has a poor attendance to ASC and Expert Group Meetings.

**Action:** PUBCOM asked SSGs and SIs to identify EGs/activities that can generate interests for academic scientists.

### **ICES Position paper**

The SSICC CRR on Climate Change in the North Atlantic is near completion. PUBCOM found great inconsistency between the chapters. Key common questions need to be addressed in similar manner across the volume. This is something to be kept in mind for future publications from other Strategic Initiatives.

### **CM documents**

SCICOM was informed that the access to CM documents on the ICES website would be restructured to increase visibility and facilitate use.

Finally, the SCICOM Chair reminded the committee that a number of scientific papers circulated by Fred Serchuk through DL ACOM and the SCICOM Chair are regularly uploaded to a SharePoint site at <http://groupnet.ices.dk/scientificpapers/default.aspx>. This may be a useful set of documents for SCICOM members.

## **14.5 ICES Website**

Einar Svendsen presented the report of the Secretariat Group on the revamping of the ICES website (SecWeb). Bill Turrell and Einar Svendsen are representatives of ACOM and SCICOM in the group.

SecWeb had requested SCICOM and ACOM to:

- Review the matrix and give their view on the information presented.
- Consider whether or not we should encourage access to the website by the public, and if so through which means.
- Give suggestions for the homepage.

Einar Svendsen presented his view on the revamping of the ICES website:

- It must communicate the "soul" of ICES (mission, vision, goals...).
- It should provide an intuitive short way to the main PRODUCTS (scientific and advice) and data:
  - Valuable time series

- Fisheries advice (e.g. TAC as the endpoint of time series maybe together with real catch and SSB)
  - Environmental advice
  - Distribution maps of physics, nutrients, pollution, plankton, fish and whales
  - Satellite obs. and numerical model simulations
  - Scenarios
  - Scientific achievements from simple bullet point statements down the hierarchy to full publications
- It ought to be a key site for up to date information on the ecosystems of the North Atlantic/ICES areas (with links to other ocean areas), including oceanography and climate, fish and shellfish, marine mammals, plankton, capture and aquaculture fisheries, tools and technology, sea floor and coastal mapping, large marine ecosystem information, etc.
  - It needs to support the ecosystem approach; both in the way science and advice are presented.
  - It should facilitate access to multi-disciplinary information.
  - It must target the (educated) general public (with simple products/exiting info) on the front page and upper layers.

SecWeb had outlined the need for policies to manage the use and structure of the website. Control rules have to be developed to assist in content management, to manage the development of EG websites, and to define the role of social media. SecWeb, in turn, must ensure that information is not lost in the creation of the new website. The development of a library feature (searchable indexed database) was viewed as a critical part of the new website.

Pierre Pepin commented that PUBCOM felt that recent developments regarding the web re-design had been very positive. However, it encouraged WebSec to identify the *target audience* for the website, the *functional properties* ICES wants to offer its users, the *way* ICES wants to make information available and the *level of information* that we wish to disseminate beyond ICES. The latter would require decisions as to how much we should invest in public outreach.

The relevance of public outreach was discussed. Some felt it was more important to ensure that our users are well served. Currently about 10% of all visits are from the general public. While this community needs to be serviced we may not want to over-invest. Ensuring we come tops in Google and other search engines searches may be more important in this regard.

It was discussed that currently the website has more information on ICES structures and *modus operandi* than on the science being done. If the website wants to be attractive to a wider user community, science outputs need to be found (including under SCICOM, where presently just information about its remit and membership is available). However, focus on outreach should not be at the expense of internal service to our users.

It was agreed that SCICOM and ACOM involvement in the development has to be increased. With this in mind the Chair asked for volunteers to contribute to the Web-

Sec effort. Erik Olsen, Yvonne Walther, and Pierre Pepin volunteered to join Einar Svendsen in this effort.

The “web-matrix” was considered too detailed to be dealt with during the meeting. The user survey was seen as limited in its scope and not widely distributed to make full use of the outcomes. There was a proposal to use the list of registered ASC participants and to distribute the survey to them and ask for input. Focusing on the students that attended the ASC might be very useful.

## **15 SCICOM Annual Progress Report**

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The SCICOM Chair presented the template of the Progress Report, summarising the requirements from SIs, SSGs, and Operational Groups. He reminded the Chairs of these committees that the deadline for inputs was 11 October.

There was a discussion in SCICOM on whether the progress report should include scientific highlights. There was agreement that the report should focus on the vision and demonstrate to Council the progress made after the restructuring of SCICOM. The question of how to bring the science to the fore would be explored at the next meeting of SCICOM. A suggestion was made to put together an article for the ICES insight for 2011 featuring highlights, instead.

## **16 SCICOM dates 2011**

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The SCICOM midterm meeting will be held from 3–5 May 2011 at the premises of the WHO Regional Office for Europe in Copenhagen.

For the following years the Secretariat was asked to explore alternative meeting dates for the midterm meeting of SCICOM, given the overbooking of Secretariat facilities in the April-May window.

## **17 Any other business**

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### **Engagement ICES- DG Research**

Two meetings have been held between DG Research and ICES:

- First meeting in DG RTD/E4 Headquarter (Brussels July 9, 2009)
- Second meeting in ICES Headquarter (Copenhagen, June 24, 2010)

During the ASC a third meeting was organised between DG Research and the SCICOM Business Group.

DG Research is looking for mechanisms to engage in research evaluation and prioritisation and have asked ICES to act as their advisers. This would radically change the role of SCICOM with regards to science advice and the implications need to be fully discussed. The MoU with the EC is currently under revision/negotiation and will include language to take account of the above objective. This matter is likely to be discussed further at Bureau, Council and at future SCICOM meetings. The SCICOM Chair invited comments from the members. SCICOM reflected that this development would put us at the heart of European marine science planning. It would add responsibilities to the Committee and this should be welcomed. While the added workload must not be taken lightly this is an excellent opportunity to develop our mandate. SCICOM would have to be more responsive, but it would also assist us in funding our involvement in ICES (given funding cuts in many member countries’ research

budgets). Following on concerns expressed at this meeting this involvement would facilitate SCICOMs engagement with ACOM regarding survey assessments and may open opportunities to fund the SCICOM training programme. Finally, it was noted that additional support from the Secretariat and Data Centre may be required as a result.

The SCICOM Chair noted the strong support and also the concerns raised. He also assured that SCICOM will be kept involved of developments regarding the MoU and of any decisions that require SCICOM approval.

#### **MSFD**

The Chair noted that SCICOM had included this item in its agenda for the last two meetings but failed to act due to time constraints. While ICES (mostly ACOM) had been engaged in the MSFD it was agreed that the scientific needs of the MSFD needed SCICOM engagement. The Chair asked for volunteers to engage with ACOM on this topic. Simon Jennings, Pierre Petitgas, Begoña Santos, and Bill Karp offered to contribute<sup>1</sup>.

## **18 Closing**

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At the first meeting attended in May, the SCICOM Chair re-iterated that SCICOM needed to embrace its strategic role and hoped that we would have fun in the process. He stated that had been very impressed with the committee over his first year of tenure, and noted that an enormous amount of work had been done. In particular he expressed thanks to the SSG Chairs for their tremendous commitment to the job. The Chair also thanked the national representatives and encouraged them to step up to the challenges facing SCICOM. He thanked the Secretariat, Adi, Görel, Claire, Maria and Vivian for fantastic support throughout the year – before, during and after the conference. SCICOM thanked the Chair. The meeting closed at 18:00.

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<sup>1</sup> Subsequently Council asked SCICOM and ACOM to initiate activities on the MSFD. Eugene Nixon (ACOM/ Council) volunteered to take the lead. Fresh calls for volunteers for a small planning team were made and Pierre Petitgas, Carlos Vale, Yvonne Walther and Dick Vethaak (SCICOM alternate) volunteered to represent SCICOM. This matter will be revisited at the May 2011 SCICOM meeting.

## Annex 1: List of participants

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**Guests:**


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## **Annex 2: Report of the P/ICES Study Group on Strategic Planning (held during the ASC in Nantes, France)**

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### **Rationale:**

The two major international marine science organizations in the northern hemisphere, ICES (International Council for the Exploration of the Sea) and PICES (North Pacific Marine Science Organization), are focused on different Oceans but have in common many scientific issues. In the past 10 years, there have been significant increases in reciprocal exchanges, cooperative sponsorships of scientific meetings and projects, and deeper linkages that have often developed on a case-by-case basis. The objective of this Study Group is to develop a formal framework for cooperation between ICES and PICES to serve as the basis for linkages of our science plans and longer term strategic planning.

### **Terms of Reference:**

- 1) Study Group members will review their organization's existing and planned scientific activities to identify scientific themes that could potentially benefit from the other's involvement in these activities.
- 2) Lists of potential areas of cooperation will be exchanged by September/October 2010.
- 3) A meeting/workshop will be convened after documents are exchanged in spring 2011 to:
  - a) Improve understanding of the science activities of each organization;
  - b) Review scientific topics from TOR(1) to identify areas of common interest;
  - c) As an example of recent cooperation, review progress of the joint Working Group on Forecasting of Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish (WGFCCIFS) established in 2008;
  - d) Develop a framework for cooperation between ICES and PICES that lists categories of joint activities and the rationale for each, including the benefits to each Organization from the joint activity; identify priorities for joint activities within categories;
  - e) Recommend processes for implementing TOR (3d);
  - f) Recommend approaches to develop a strategic plan for cooperation and mechanisms to periodically update that plan.
- 4) The Co-Chairmen will prepare a final Study Group report for distribution by the P/ICES Secretariats by August 2011.

### **Attendance:**

This meeting was not planned as a formal SG meeting. As the two PICES members (Yoo, Mckinnell) were attending the ICES ASC, the meeting was called on. Consequently, the other two PICES members (Hiroaki Saito, Tom Therriault) did not participate but will be briefed on the progress.

### **Members:**

- Manuel Barange, Chair ICES Science Committee (SCICOM)
- Mark Dickey-Collas, IMARES, The Netherlands, Chair of the ICES SCICOM Science Steering Group on Sustainable Use of Ecosystems (SSGSUE)

- Begoña Santos, IEO, Spain, Chair of the ICES SCICOM Science Study Group on Science Cooperation (SSGSC)
- Sinjae Yoo, PICES, Science Board Chairman-elect
- Skip McKinnell, PICES Deputy Executive Secretary

Invited guests:

- William Karp, USA, Chair of the ICES SCICOM Science Steering Group on Ecosystem Surveys Science and Technology (SSGESST)
- Jürgen Alheit, Germany, (ICES, GLOBEC SPACC)
- Suam Kim, PICES, Co-Chair of the Joint PICES /ICES Working Group on Forecasting Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish (WGFCCIFS)
- Anne B. Hollowed, PICES, Co-Chair of the Joint PICES /ICES Working Group on Forecasting Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish (WGFCCIFS)

### Agenda:

#### 1. Strategic cooperation: topics and issues

Sinjae Yoo (Chairman of the PICES Science Board) presented *FUTURE (Forecasting and Understanding Trends, Uncertainty and Responses of North Pacific Marine Ecosystems)*, PICES 2<sup>nd</sup> Integrative Science Program that will be implemented from 2009 to 2019. The research theme of *FUTURE* can be constructed around the following 3 questions:

- What determines an ecosystem's intrinsic resilience and vulnerability to natural and anthropogenic forcing?
- How do ecosystems respond to natural and anthropogenic forcing, and how might they change in the future?
- How do human activities affect coastal ecosystems and how are societies affected by changes in these ecosystems?

Manuel Barange (Chair of the ICES Science Committee) had already presented the ICES Revised Science Plan, which will be implemented from 2009 to 2013, during the ASC. The ICES Science Plan consists of sixteen research topics under three thematic areas:

- Understanding Ecosystem Functioning
- Understanding Interactions of Human Activities with Ecosystems
- Development of Options for Sustainable Use of Ecosystems

The discussion then centred on the identification of synergies and areas where collaboration will be beneficial to help deliver both *FUTURE* and the ICES Science Plan. Obvious areas where a global perspective of research is needed were:

- Climate Change (improving forecasting)
- Ecosystem resilience and vulnerability (a central theme of the European MSFD)

In the first case, progress has already been made towards cooperation by the establishment in 2008 of a Joint WG on Forecasting Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish (WGFCCIFS).

In the case of ecosystem resilience and vulnerability, both organisations could benefit from joining forces since this topic is not well developed in either and cooperation

will both reduce duplication and improve efficiency. A possible way forward could be the setting up of a Joint Workshop tasked with addressing the meaning of resilience and vulnerability, the mechanisms involved and the design of potential indicators to measure these ecosystem metrics.

The earliest opportunity in this direction is a workshop on ecological indicators for ecosystem structure, function, resilience, and vulnerability (tentative title) being planned and will be discussed at the PICES 2010 annual meeting. If approved, this workshop will take place during the PICES intersessional meeting in the spring 2011. Some ICES scientists will participate in the workshop. P-ICES SG will also take this opportunity to meet.

Other potential areas of common interests were spatial planning and ocean acidification. There were some discussion on these issues and SG will consider these topics and others in preparing the strategic plan.

## **2. Managing joint theme sessions at annual meetings**

At present, the participation of PICES scientists in the ICES ASC and Joint symposia is being covered financially by PICES. This is not a common mechanism in ICES (money to cover the travelling costs of ICES participants has been made available on some occasions from sources such as the SIF funds but normally it is expected to be covered at national expense). Manuel Barange proposes to discuss with ICES Council the possibility of creating/identifying a pot of money specific for this purpose as a way forward.

Theme session proposals for the ICES ASC are voted on and decided one year in advance, at the previous September meeting of SCICOM. The PICES Science Board meets 3 weeks after the ASC. This could cause a problem if some of the Theme sessions are going to be run in collaboration between both organisations since the decision will, in principle, be taken by ICES before PICES has had a chance to approve them. It was suggested that a possible solution will be to present the Joint Theme sessions for PICES consideration at their Intersessional Meeting in April before the ICES annual September meeting.

Joint Workshops do not need to go through this process since they can be approved during the year.

## **3. Symposia: update and future plans**

The list of co-sponsored symposia is given in Table 1. There is a good number of symposia being run in collaboration between both organisations and it was felt that no improvements were needed in this area. Table 1 also lists two symposia in 2012 (Forage Fish Interactions and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management and Early Career Scientist Conference "Oceans of Change") where a final decision about co-sponsorship has not yet been reached.

## **4. Roadmap for the joint P/ICES SG**

The Joint P/ICES SG on Strategic Planning, as presently structured, is due to produce a final report by April 2011. It was felt that its ToRs would be better served if the life span of the P/ICES SGSP was extended, due to the importance and long-term nature of the framework for cooperation between ICES and PICES.

If the lifespan of the SG were to be extended, it was discussed that members could meet each year, alternately at the ICES / PICES Annual Conferences.

**5. AOB**

The issue of a joint ICES/PICES training programme was raised but not discussed further during the meeting due to lack of time.

No other items of business were raised during the meeting.

**Table 1. List of PICES / ICES co-sponsored symposia for 2010-2012.**

YEAR	DATE	TITLE	VENUE	CONVENERS	CO-SPONSORS
2010	8–11 November	Symposium on “Ecosystems 2010: Global Progress on Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management”	Anchorage, USA	G. Kruse (USA), P. Livingston (USA), D. Woodby (USA), D. Evans (USA), C. Zhang (Korea), G. Jamieson (Canada)	Alaska Sea Grant, FAO, US NMFS, NPFMC, Alaska Department of Fish and Game
2011	14–18 March	5th Zooplankton Production	Pucon, Chile	R. Escribano (Chile), D. Bonnet (France), J. Keister (USA)	DFO
2011	22–26 May	Symposium on “Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observations and prediction”	Seattle WA, USA	G. Hunt (USA), Ó. Astthórsson (Iceland), M. Kishi (Japan)	ESSAS
2012	14–18 May	Second Symposium on “Effects of climate changes on the world’s oceans”	Yeosu, Korea	L. Valdes (Spain), K. Suam (Korea), S. Hughes (UK), Hiroaki Saito (Japan)	IOC, MIFFAF (Korea)
*2012	8–12 November (tentative)	Forage Fish Interactions and Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (FACTS)	Nantes, France	S. Neuenfeldt (Denmark), M. Peck (Germany), plus two externals	FACTS (ECFP7)
*2012	April	Early Career Scientist Conference “Oceans of Change”	Mallorca, Spain	A. Kellermann (Denmark, ICES) and S. McKinnell (Canada, PICES)	NOAA, Regional Government of Mallorca

NMFS: National Marine Fisheries Service

NPFMC: North Pacific Fishery Management Council

DFO: Fisheries and Oceans Canada

ESSAS: Ecosystem Studies of Sub-Arctic Seas Program

IOC: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

\*Pending approval by PICES



### **Annex 3: Theme Sessions approved for ASC 2011**

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- 1) Atlantic redfish and Pacific rockfish: Comparing biology, ecology, assessment and management strategies for *Sebastes* spp. Chairs: Benjamin Planque (Norway), Paul Spencer (USA), Christoph Stransky (Germany), Steve Cadrin (USA)
- 2) Ecological response of phytoplankton and other microbes to global change processes in ocean basins, shelf seas and coastal zones. Chairs: William Li (Canada), Xosé Anxelu G. Morán (Spain), Katja Metfies (Germany)
- 3) Harmful Algal Blooms in the Baltic Sea. Chairs: Bengt Karlson (Sweden), Emil Vahtera (USA)
- 4) Linking the history to the present: understanding the history of fish, fisheries and management. Chairs: Andy Rosenberg (USA), Max Cardinale (Sweden), Bo Poulsen (Denmark)
- 5) Upwelling events, coastal-offshore exchange and links to biogeochemical processes in various parts of the oceans. Chairs: Kai Myrberg (Finland), Andreas Lehmann (Germany), Tom Anderson (UK)
- 6) Applications of optical and image based technologies in the ecosystem approach to fisheries management. Chairs: Eirik Tenningen (Norway) and Bill Michaels (USA)
- 7) Habitat mapping for better assessment and monitoring of our seas. Chairs: Jacques Populus (France) and Roger Coggan (UK)
- 8) Recruitment processes: Early life history dynamics – from eggs to juveniles. Chairs: Richard D.M. Nash (Norway), Ed Houde (USA), tbd.
- 9) Integrating top predators into ecosystem management. Chairs: Begoña Santos (Spain), Mark Dickey-Collas (The Netherlands), Stefan Neuenfeldt (Denmark).
- 10) Climate and fisheries related influences on marine ecosystems at regional and basin scales. Chairs: Webjørn Melle (Norway) and Erica Head (Canada)
- 11) Integrating micro- and meso-zooplankton in marine food web research. Chairs: Jamie Pierson (USA), Steve Hay (UK) and Sigrún Jónasdóttir (Denmark)
- 12) Biophysical modelling Tools and Spatial Management of Marine Resources: A Strategic Dialogue. Chairs: Myron A. Peck (Germany), Pierre Petitgas (France), tbd (from the management side)
- 13) Assessment and Management of Large Marine Ecosystems. Chairs: Michael O'Toole (Ireland), Kenneth Sherman (USA), Gotthilf Hempel (Germany) and Yvonne Walther (Sweden)
- 14) The future of marine fish stocks and food webs – advancing methods for projections in the face of uncertainty. Chairs: Anna Gårdmark (Sweden) and Christian Möllmann (Germany)
- 15) Surplus Production Models: Quantitative Tools to Manage Exploited Fisheries and Compare the Productivity of Marine Ecosystems. Chairs: Ken Drinkwater (Norway), Jason Link (USA), Jennifer Boldt (Canada)

- 16 ) The interface between management and science - moving forward. Chairs: Kjartan Hoydal (NEAFC), Ásmundur Guðjonsson (NMC), and Hans Lassen (Denmark)
- 17 ) Atmospheric forcing of the Northern Hemisphere ocean gyres, and the subsequent impact on the adjacent marine climate and ecosystems. Chairs: Jürgen Alheit (Germany), Hjálmar Hátún (Faroe Islands), Emanuele Di Lorenzo (USA), Ichiro Yasuda (Japan)
- 18 ) Integration of multidisciplinary knowledge in the Baltic Sea to support science-based management. Chairs: Sakari Kuikka (Finland), Michael Gilek (Sweden), Kari Lehtonen (Finland), Markus Meier (Sweden)
- 19 ) Extracting energy from waves and tides – what are the consequences for ecosystems, physical processes and other sea users. Chairs: Jonathan Side (UK), Michael Bell (UK)