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Report of the Science Committee (SCICOM)

19–27 September 2009

Berlin, Germany



ICES

International Council for
the Exploration of the Sea

CIEM

Conseil International pour
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1 Opening

The Chair welcomed John Stein, PICES. Apologies had been received from the SCICOM delegates of Estonia, Denmark, and Portugal. The list of participants is provided in Annex 1.

2 Adoption of agenda and timetable

The election of new SCICOM Chair had originally been scheduled for Sunday, 27 September. The Chair proposed to move forward the election on Friday, 25 September, preferably as the last agenda item of the SCICOM Friday session. The Committee agreed. The Secretariat would inform members not present.

With this amendment, the agenda was approved.

3 Follow up on decisions taken at the meetings of SCICOM (18–20 May 2009) and Bureau (9–10 June 2009)

Actions were taken on all decisions made by SCICOM at its May 2009 meeting:

- 3.1.1. The Chair of the Steering Group on Climate Change (SGCC) had been informed that the group will report to SSGEF in the future and that (in light of the restructuring) the group should be renamed from Steering Group to Working Group. The Chair of SGCC asked SCICOM to reconsider its decision;
- 3.1.2 and 6.1. A new operational group was established to review and recommend to SCICOM the ASC Theme Sessions. It will be formed by the chairs of the 5 SSGs, the Host Country and the Head of Science (HoS);
- 3.1.3. Decision regarding an External Advisory Group proposed by SWGSL should be reconsidered when the new science structure is fully operational and was put on the agenda of SCICOM in spring 2010.
- 4.1.1. Tom Noji (USA) had offered to be interim Chair of SSGHIE until ASC 2009 for the SSG on Human Interactions on Ecosystems (SSGHIE). An election for the new Chair was scheduled for Saturday, 19 September. The new Chair will also become a new member on SCICOM;
- 4.1.2. SSG Chairs have developed ToRs for their Steering Group using the generic ToRs proposed in the report of SWGSL;
- 4.1.3. With regard to the membership of the new SSGs, SSG Chairs made suggestions to SCICOM on the membership of their groups after the initial meetings held in Berlin;
- 4.1.4. SSGs met by correspondence or web conference to prepare their ASC business meetings;
- 4.1.5 and 8.3.1. The ToRs of the SCICOM Working Group on Data and Information Management (WGDIM) to be reviewed and approved by SCICOM at this (September 2009) ASC meeting;
- 5.1.1. A standard template was developed for EGs to report on their accomplishments. SSG Chairs should inform the Secretariat if they are happy with the format or make recommendation on changes;

- 5.1.2. In cooperation with the Secretariat, Chairs developed SSG agendas and prepared for the business meetings;
- 7.3.1. The ToRs of SCICOM Working Group on Strategic Initiatives (SWGSI) were approved by SCICOM by correspondence. SWGSI produced a report on how to increase the profile of ICES on specific strategic areas;
- 8.1.1. Given the new responsibilities of the current chair of SGCC, Jürgen Alheit (Germany) was appointed Co-Chair of the group;
- 8.4.1. Redesign of the ICES website. SCICOM and ACOM were asked to provide feedback and input on redesigning the ICES website.
- 8.4.2. TGIP/PUBCOM ToRs and Membership to be approved by SCICOM. The communications strategy to be brought up at the ACOM/SCICOM Joint meeting. Input was requested and feedback received from five people in this committee.
- 10.2.1. On the “Symposium on hydrobiological and ecosystem variability in ICES area during the first decade of the XXI century” – the ACOM Chair informed the committee that ACOM aims at producing an advice strategy on ecosystem assessment in the ICES area.
- 10.3.1. The Chair encouraged SCICOM members to maintain good communication with Delegates with a view to ensure a consistent approach between SCICOM and Council Delegates when it comes to necessary actions and decisions – some have impacts on funding.
- 10.4.1. SCICOM business to be dealt with through WebEx Conferences. The Secretariat is in the process of developing guidelines for web conferences and will provide training to individual participants if required.
- 10.6.1. ICES-FAO WGFTFB venue, Thailand, 2010. The SCICOM Chair wrote to Francis Chopin explaining the decision of SCICOM (e.g. not supporting the venue in Bangkok). The letter generated negative feedback from WGFTFB. The issue of venue for meeting should be addressed in the Science Cooperation Strategy.

Decision: SCICOM approved the midterm report.

4 General arrangements for Annual Science Conference 2009

The HoS informed the committee of the logistics of the ASC and business meetings. The Nizza meeting room would not be big enough for the joint meeting of SCICOM/ACOM next Saturday, and the Secretariat was asked to work on a solution. The Secretariat had received many additional requests for extra meetings to be held during the ASC week, among these are mainly ICES operational groups, Awards Committee, SGCC, Russian Federation on Redfish Lunch meeting, BASIN and others.

The number of participants is expected to be around 700 by early next week. Dinner will be at TIPI, which is a cabaret tent. The closing of the ASC will be September 25 at 14:00.

Berlin has experienced severe public transport problems due to a large percentage of the S-trains being in repair. There was some uncertainty as to which extent this would affect the transportation to and from the conference.

The plan for the opening day was presented. A press conference is scheduled for September 21 at 10:00. The ICES president will open the conference. The German Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Consumer Protection and EU Commissioner Joe

Borg will also address the conference. The Chair of the Awards Committee will present the Outstanding Achievement Award to Jake Rice, Canada.

4.1 Draft Resolutions (status)

The Secretariat informed the committee of the practical arrangements in connection with the work and update of draft resolutions during the conference.

4.2 Preparation of Steering Group meetings

The SSG Chairs summarized some concerns and issues that will need to be addressed during the Steering Group meetings:

- **Report form EGs:** Some EGs have not completed their report yet. Each SSG Chair should ensure that all reports are completed.
- **Attendance:** It is expected that a number of EG Chairs will not attend the ASC, but that a large number of EGs will be represented (the Chair or members) at the SSG meetings on Wednesday.
- **Engagement:** The level of engagement varies. For example, in the SSGRSP, people are very active and there is good synergy, while in SSGESST it appears challenging to engage people in the notion of change. SSG Chairs will pay attention to this issue during the week.
- **Expertise:** Some priorities of the Science Plan might be more difficult to address given the lack of expertise in the EGs. Socio-economic and spatial planning were cited as example. The BONUS peoples have been invited to attend the meeting of SSGRSP as a mean to reach out.
- **Membership of SSG:** The Chair mentioned that based on the recommendation of the SWGSL, SCICOM had agreed that each group should have a number of SCICOM members, a number (three or more) of EG Chairs, and the possibility of membership from an external organisation or university. The question is still open and SSGs will discuss the different options during the week. On Sunday, we need to consider if the suggestions from the SSG Chairs will form a solid base for the groups. Not a complete carte blanche but an invitation for an open process.
- **Managing the change:** The SSG Chairs were enthusiastic about getting to know and work with the new EG Chairs. They stressed the importance of building trust and confidence between the EG Chairs and the SSG Chairs within the new structure. Good communication will be essential. Many EG Chairs are volunteering their work and it is important to get them engaged.
- **Implementing the change:** The Chair stressed the need to move forward. He wished the SSG Chairs the best of luck and said that he would be counting on their leadership. All SCICOM members were strongly encouraged to get actively involved in the SSG meetings.

4.3 ASC Award Selection Committee

SCICOM Steering Groups were asked to each appoint a representative to join the ASC Award Selection Committee. Simon Jennings, UK; Markku Viitasalo, Finland; and Dariusz Fey, Poland, were asked to coordinate the work of the Award Selection Committee, i.e. to solicit candidates for the merit awards: best newcomer, best presentation, and the best poster.

Based on previous year's experience, Pierre Pepin explained that theme session conveners should be asked to identify good candidates. Also, it would be important to cover the last theme sessions well.

5 Brief overview of Theme Sessions 2010

The new ASC Group, which is composed of the five SSG Chairs and the local host delegate (Maurice Héral) is tasked to review and recommend to SCICOM the ASC Theme Sessions for 2010. The Chair asked them to link the proposals to the Science Plan. Maurice Héral was asked to Chair the process.

In line with previous years, new proposals and updates to existing ones are submitted at a late stage, and thus this should be taken into consideration when planning the work.

The HoS asked the members of SCICOM for their suggestions for good keynotes/open lecturers for the ASC 2010 and reminded the committee that last year Consultative Committee had recommended having a young and/or female scientist giving the ASC keynote.

6 Approval of procedures for SCICOM (ToRs, Chairs, terms, election rules)

The Chair presented the draft SCICOM Election Procedures, and recommended the document for approval by SCICOM. The need to have a clear process was emphasised; there should be no room for Council to second-guess. The procedure of electing the Chair of SCICOM is identical to the one used for the ICES Council with the following exceptions:

- When nominating a scientist who is not a SCICOM member, the delegate making the proposal must be able to confirm that the nominee is ready to stand and talk about his/her accomplishment.

The General Secretary commented that the Chair of SCICOM is an official job, which requires a formalised election procedure. Within SCICOM (SSG and operational group Chairs), SCICOM has the freedom to choose whichever procedure.

It was clarified that the term of office for chairs is three years with the possibility of a one-year extension. However for the five SSG Chairs, different terms were agreed for the first mandate to ensure that not all chair step down at the same time.

Decision: Election Procedures, Doc 8a (Annex 2), were approved by SCICOM.

6.1 Election/appointment of new Chair of SSGHIE

Erik Olsen, Norway, was elected new Chair of SSGHIE.

7 Update on SCICOM activities:

7.1 Cooperation with other organisations

HoS presented an update (Doc 9a).

IOC-IUCN-NOAA Large Marine Ecosystems

ICES was invited to the 11th LME Consultative Committee meeting in Paris, France, 9–10 July 2009, which reported on the activities and on the progress of implementing the Global Environment Facility (GEF) operational plan. Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) have been in place for about 15 years and are funded by the (GEF) of the World Bank. GEF has set up an ecosystem-based approach to the assessment and management of LMEs and they are looking for new partners to enhance their capacity. They are proposing a joint WG reporting to SCICOM and the LME Consultative Committee.

SCICOM felt it was useful to get involved in the LME process and saw advantages, but also some risks, in joining forces. Some concerns were raised in establishing another WG given that SCICOM has established a Regional Sea Program, which is connected to LMEs.

Decision: HoS to contact GEF to discuss the membership of the proposed WG and report back to SCICOM.

Invitation from SCOR to co-sponsor SCOR Working Groups

An invitation from SCOR had been extended to ICES by the SCOR Secretariat on 3 June 2009 to co-sponsor one or more of the new Working Groups of 2009. SCICOM discussed the benefits to cooperate on three WGs:

- 1) Evaluating the ecological status of the world's fished marine ecosystems
- 2) Coupled climate-to-fish-to-fishers models for understanding mechanisms underlying low-frequency fluctuations in small pelagic fish
- 5) Patterns of Phytoplankton Dynamics in Coastal Ecosystems: Comparative Analysis of Time Series Observation

The latter two Working Groups have meanwhile received support letters from PICES.

SCICOM agreed on cooperating with SCOR on these three areas of interest. However, SCICOM was concerned about the governance process (WG # 1) by which ICES agrees to the ecological status of the fish stocks.

Decision: HoS to send a letter to SCOR, which would essentially say that ICES would like to cooperate on the three areas of interest identified above. The letter should indicate that we would like to discuss the nature of cooperation, namely, governance; linkage with a number of our EGs; and ways that we could better work together.

OceanObs'09 Joint Working Group

The organizers of the OceanObs'09 conference sent an invitation letter to ICES to join a Working Group on the implementation and operation of a sustained observing system to be established during the conference, 21–25 September.

Decision: HoS and the Chair of WGOOFE to contact the co-conveners of OceanObs'09 to discuss ICES participation in a joint Working Group.

Cooperation with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)

Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) has approached ICES to develop a partnership on Biodiversity data. SCICOM felt that it would be beneficial and agreed to pursue cooperation with GBIF.

Decision: Head of Data Centre to draft a Letter of Understanding with GBIF.

HERMIONE (Hotspot Ecosystem Research and Man's Impact on European Seas) In HERMIONE, the activities of the Science-Policy Panel (SPP) and the Science Implementation Panel (SIP) started under HERMES will continue and ICES was invited to continue as a member of the SPP.

Decision: SCICOM agreed to the ongoing participation of HoS as member of the Board.

EUR-OCEANS

Information item. No decision required.

7.2 Science Working Group on Science Cooperation (SWGSC)

Begoña Santos presented the report of the SWGSC (Doc 15). The working group has made very significant progress in addressing ToRs 1 and 2, while ToR 3, which consists in developing a draft Science Cooperation Strategy will be addressed in the first half of 2010.

Under ToR 1 '*Review the present cooperation; evaluate its functionality*', the list of organizations, which we are partnering with ICES have been updated and classified. These organizations are heterogeneous as well as the types of cooperation. One of the problems for SWGSS is the lack of detailed knowledge on several organisations and the wide spectrum of collaboration types. Because of this, SWGSC designed a draft questionnaire to be circulated among ICES EGs to seek wider input on cooperation. This questionnaire was presented to SCICOM. The present cooperation has been reviewed in relation to the Science Plan and is deemed relevant. A preliminary evaluation of the functionality of the cooperation is in progress.

Under ToR 2, '*Explore the potential for new cooperation*', five steps are being taken to identify new cooperation:

- 1) In the Science Plan
 - Are there components of the Science Plan which are not well supported by cooperation (see Co-op Matrix)?
- 2) In the Advisory Plan
 - "Integrated advice across industry sectors and components of ecosystem" – How does cooperation help?
- 3) New innovations and emerging fields of marine R & D
 - Which type of advice we presently cannot give, without proper cooperation?
- 4) Liaise with the Developing Strategic Initiatives group
- 5) Survey ICES EGs and SCICOM for opinions on "emerging synergies" and gaps in relation to SP and AS + identify potential new cooperation via a short questionnaire (see attached questionnaire)

SCICOM discussed the initial finding of SWGSC and congratulated the team for the excellent work.

Decision: SCICOM agreed with the work plan proposed by SWGSC. The draft report will be circulated to SCICOM for review in January 2010 and the draft Strategy will be completed in the spring of 2010.

7.3 Strategic Initiatives

SCICOM Working Group on Strategic Initiatives (SWGSI)

Ted Potter presented the report of the SWGSI (Doc 21). At its meeting in May 2009, SCICOM had discussed the development of “strategic initiatives” with the aim of identifying 3 to 5 priority issues to be supported by the ICES Strategic Investment Fund (SIF). These initiatives, which could be 2–3 years in duration, would advance the ICES Science Plan by focusing on cross-cutting issues important to member countries and integrating scientific knowledge and disciplines. A SCICOM Working Group on Strategic Initiatives (SWGSI) was established to develop a short paper on how to increase the profile of ICES on specific areas of marine science. The Working Group recognised that establishing scientific leadership in any scientific discipline would depend primarily upon the scientists involved (Funding, Networks, Data, Methods, Dissemination).

On the basis of a thorough review of the Science Plan three subject areas were proposed for strategic development: climate change; coastal zones; and biodiversity and the need for ownership of the strategic initiatives:

Climate Change – Identified as a high profile global issue, which is strong within all the themes. The key concern of SWGSI was the need for improving coordination and collaboration in this area. The Group on Climate Change is already engaged in this work and clearly a group like that is likely to continue to take a lead. There will probably not be more costs involved. The process will involve coordination between the Group and other key players.

Coastal Zone – Clearly a cross-cutting theme and in particular in relation to the impacts of contaminants, eutrophication and habitat change; the influence of renewable energy developments on marine habitat and biota; marine spatial planning, including the effectiveness of management practices such as Marine Protected Areas; and the interaction of mariculture with natural resources. SWGSI suggests coordination of SSGHIE and WGICZM, developing an action plan. There are several other EGs that would have a major role. Involvement of the ICES Data Centre will be important. Developing pilot studies would be more costly. Publicity will matter if we are to demonstrate leadership.

Biodiversity – Draws together a number of topics within the Science Plan including the health of the marine ecosystem, sensitive ecosystems, the impacts of fishing on the ecosystem, marine spatial planning, the development of indicators of ecosystem change, etc. Biodiversity is increasingly important, in particular in relation to the ecosystem approach. You could also argue that the ecosystem approach would be the key issue, i.e. viewing this from a different angle.

The SCICOM Chair thanked the group for their excellent work. SCICOM expressed its support for the three topics proposed for the development of strategic initiatives. Some concerns were raised concerning the availability of expertise within ICES to address these topics and it was felt necessary to attract scientists for academia and other organizations. Various views were expressed concerning the governance of these initiatives. It was concluded that at this point in time, SSGs should play a leading role in the development of these cross-cutting initiatives and that governance could be reconsidered at a later date. SCICOM agreed that the initiative on Climate Change was well under way and that the Climate Change Group should complete its work according to the approved work plan. The two other topics need to be fine-tuned and actions plans developed.

The Chair asked the Chairs of SSGSUE and SSGHIE to respectively take the lead in developing the draft ToRs for the two new strategic initiatives on Biodiversity and Coastal Zone Management. They should also consider who could lead these initiatives once they are fully developed and approved. The General Secretary specified that requests for funding for these initiatives have to be presented as Category 4 resolutions and be approved by the Council.

Decision: SCICOM asked the Chairs of SSGSUE and SSGHIE to develop draft ToRs for the two new strategic initiatives and to bring them back for a discussion at the 27 September 2009 SCICOM meeting.

7.4 Symposia 2010–2012 (progress report and assignment of shadowing SC Chairs)

HoS updated SCICOM on the status of symposia. From now on, SSGs will shadow symposia, which mean being responsible for selecting Steering Committee members for the symposia.

Three symposia have applied for ICES co-sponsorship in 2009:

- A Symposium on “**Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observation and prediction**” to be held during late May or early June 2011, in Seattle, Washington, USA with George Hunt (USA), Ólafur Astthórsson (Iceland), and Michio Kishi (Japan) as Co-conveners.
- **The 2nd International Symposium on Integrated Coastal Zone Management**, to be held 3–7 July 2011, at Arendal, Norway, with Erlend Moksness as Convener. The “**Second International Symposium on the Effects of climate change on the world’s oceans**” to be held in May 2012, at Yeosu (Korea) with the support of IOC, PICES and ICES as co-conveners.

A request had been received from the conveners of the symposium on “Societal Applications in Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remote Sensing” (SAFARI), held in Kochi, India, 15–17 February 2010) to use the JMS as an outlet for the proceedings. This was welcomed as an opportunity to broaden the scope of the Journal and as an outreach opportunity for ICES into that community. A time slot was available as a result of the decision by the “Sixth International Conference on Marine Bioinvasions” (MB) not to make use of the JMS issue they had been awarded.

The Symposium on Integrated Coastal Zone Management does not require funding or Secretariat resources apart from the ICES logo.

The PUBCOM Chair informed the committee that four symposia are scheduled for the ICES Journal in 2012, which might be a problem. PUBCOM will address this issue during its second meeting of the week.

The Chair noted that three symposia fall under the theme of ecosystem functions. SCICOM should consider supporting symposia that would address the themes of the Science Plan in a balanced way.

7.5 Steering Group on Climate Change (SGCC)

Jürgen Alheit presented the report of the SGCC (Doc 11). The presentation focused on a number of issues, namely:

- reporting of SGCC in the new Science Structure;

- content of the position paper on Climate Change;
- peer-review and publication of the paper.

SCICOM discussed the issue of governance of SSGC and the visibility of the Climate Change in ICES. The Committee reiterates to the Co-Chair of SGCC the importance of Climate Change, which will now be positioned as the *Science Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (SSICC)*.

Decision: In a subsequent discussion during the week, SCICOM decided that the Co-Chairs of SSICC will be reporting directly to SCICOM until the initiative is completed in 2010.

Concerning the content of the report, SCICOM discussed the pros and cons of including in the position paper a chapter on the socio-economic consequences of climate change in the North Atlantic. Concerns were raised about the lack of expertise to adequately address the issue. External expertise will be required to develop this chapter, but could this be achieved successfully in a timely fashion? SCICOM agreed that the publication of the paper could not be postponed and to exclude the chapter on socio-economic. However, in the future, SCICOM needs to address how to engage the socio-economic community more widely.

Decision: SCICOM decided to publish the position paper without a chapter on socio-economic along the timelines proposed (e.g. submission 1 June 2010 and publication 1 September 2010)

Peer-review of the position paper will be very important. Since the paper will represent the official view of ICES, it has to be reviewed for technical accuracy by scientific experts and for policy matters by SCICOM. The position paper will need to be communicated beyond the scientific community. Therefore, it would also be useful to produce for the non-specialists and policy-makers a pamphlet that boils everything down.

Decision:

- Chair of PUBCOM to develop a review process. The process (Annex 3) was approved by SCICOM.
- Co-Chairs of SSICC to develop a pamphlet for non-specialists and policy-makers summarizing the key conclusions

7.6 Working Group on Data and Information Management (WGDIM)

Richard Ayers, Co-Chair of WGDIM, gave a presentation on the activities and objectives of WGDIM (Doc 12). The main focus of the presentation was on the future role of WGDIM, which should be:

- Advisory – addressing specific data related issues
- Strategic – identifying medium term needs of ICES Community
- Tactical – making recommendation on how ICES should position itself in emerging projects and initiatives related to data management

The ToRs for 2010 were presented to SCICOM for approval.

SCICOM expressed strong support for the approach proposed by WGDIM and congratulated them for their vision and action plan.

Decision: SCICOM approved the ToRs proposed by WGDIM

7.7 Training Group

Gerd Kraus presented the report of the Training Programme (Doc 13). The presentation provided a good summary of the training activities; the courses being developed or under development, and; a number of issues related to funding and cooperation with other organizations.

- Five ICES courses are running or under development :
 - Stock assessment (introduction)
 - Stock assessment (advanced)
 - Bayesian techniques for stock assessment
 - Management Strategy Evaluation
 - Ecosystem Modelling for Fisheries Management
- Three more courses are under discussion:
 - Survey design and technical methods
 - Advice context, chairing, communication, outreach
 - Statistics relevant to fisheries and ecosystem research

SCICOM made a number of suggestions as a means to move forward with the training program:

- Consider web-based courses as an option to produce and sell training manuals
- Address the issue of Intellectual Property (training course material)
- Be more specific about qualification of participants (e.g. minimum requirements)
- Adjust course fees to ensure that costs of training are fully cost-recovered

Decision:

- The Chair of the Training Group was asked to consider the suggestions made by SCICOM and continue to involve SCICOM and ACOM in the development of the training program.
- SCICOM appointed Niall Ó Maoiléidigh (Ireland) as member of the Training Group, replacing Ted Potter.

7.8 Awards Committee (ICES Recognition Programme)

Two SCICOM representatives, Pierre Petitgas and Ted Potter, are stepping down and need to be replaced.

Decision: SCICOM appointed Mårten Åström (Sweden) and Ólafur Astthórsson (Iceland) on the Awards Committee.

8 EG Recommendations to SCICOM

The EG recommendations made to SCICOM were distributed to parent SCICOM Steering Groups for their consideration and review.

9 Summary from SCICOM Steering Groups

Steering Groups met on September 21 and 23 to reviews ToRs proposed by EGs; develop a roadmap for 2010; identify cross-cutting issues with other Steering Groups, and; identify issues that needed to be discussed with ACOM. The five SSG Chairs presented a summary of the key issues discussed in their respective meetings (Annexes 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8).

The following are key comments made by SCICOM following the presentations of the Steering Groups:

SSGRSP

The Group was encouraged to play a more active role in coordinating national programs. As well, close collaboration with ACOM would be essential to assure an iterative process for the Integrated Ecosystem Assessment. SSGRSP was also challenged to look at the EU Marine Strategy and take it into account in the development of the program.

SSGESST

The SSGESST Chair stressed the very interesting challenge of bringing together the technology and survey EGs together and to create an integrated vision. The Group was encouraged to develop strategic thinking. Innovation from technology groups could fertilize survey planning groups, which would benefit the advisory services.

SSGEF

Following the presentation, SCICOM had an interesting discussion on the provision of Ecosystem Advice and in particular why progress is so slow. It was suggested that we haven't tried to define what such advice should look like and that SSGEF should take the lead in figuring out what this should look like. This is a great opportunity to work with ACOM, which needs to integrate in the advice new information on ecosystem developed by Science. SSGEF should participate in the ACOM Workshops on FORM and FORMAT of advice in the first week of December 2009.

SSGSUE

SCICOM noted how much of the work of SSGSUE is relevant to the other thematic steering groups, but also to the regional seas programmes and ACOM. The Committee encourages SSGSUE to work closely with the other Steering Groups and ACOM as it is their responsibility to provide a natural bridge between Science and Advice.

SSGHIE

Following the presentation, most of the discussion was focused on the Strategic Initiative on Coastal Zones and Marine Spatial Planning. Should the scope of the initiative be broadened? How to incorporate socio-economic aspects? SCICOM agreed that it will be a good subject for discussion during the joint SCICOM-ACOM meeting tomorrow.

SSG membership

SCICOM had a discussion on the membership of the Steering Groups. Various views were expressed going from having all EG Chairs as member to some form of executive or core group. It was generally felt that inclusiveness is important, but at the

same time, the Steering Groups need to be efficient and take action. The Chair reminded SCICOM that the ToRs of the SSG explicitly state the responsibilities of the SSGs and that each SSG Chair must structure their Group in a way that will allow for an efficient delivery mechanism of their work plan.

Decision: Each SSG Chair to finalize the membership of their Group as part of their 2010 work plan.

Issues for discussion with ACOM

As a follow up to the presentation by the SSG Chairs, the following subjects will be brought forward at the joint SCICOM-ACOM meeting tomorrow:

- Coastal Zones
- Biodiversity
- Ecosystem Surveys
- Integrated Ecosystem Assessment
- Couple Ecological-Economic Modelling
- Stock Assessment Methods
- Input into the advisory process – ecosystem

10 Election of SCICOM Chair

Manuel Barange (UK) elected new Chair of the Science Committee (SCICOM). A recommendation will be made to the Council for his appointment as Chair of SCICOM, effective 1 January 2010.

11 Plenary reflection on the joint ACOM / SCICOM meeting

SCICOM agreed that the joint meeting with ACOM was a very useful forum. However, for future joint meetings, the agenda should be planned well in advance and be more focused with a smaller number of topics. The idea of having a workshop on one or two specific subjects should also be considered. It was agreed that we should avoid covering common subjects (ex: Training) twice (e.g. in SCICOM and in the joint meeting with ACOM).

The Committee discussed the relationship with ACOM and noted that there is a need to strike a balance between the requests for scientific support made by ACOM and the overall mandate of SCICOM, which includes longer term research. This being said, it was particularly interesting to note the match between the key issues identified by SCICOM before the joint meeting (left) and the research priorities identified by ACOM (right) during the joint meeting:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • COASTAL ZONES | • MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING |
| • BIODIVERSITY | • BIODIVERSITY |
| • ECOSYSTEM SURVEYS | • CLIMATE |
| • INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT | • INTEGRATE ECOSYSTEM SURVEY DESIGN |
| • COUPLE ECOLOGICAL-ECONOMIC MODELLING | • INTEGRATED REGIONAL ASSESSMENT |
| | • SOCIO-ECONOMIC SCIENCE |
| | • MODELING (MULTISPECIES AND GE- |
-

• STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODS	NERIC)
• INPUT INTO THE ADVISORY PROCESS – ECOSYSTEM	• INDICATORS; GENETICS; CONSERVATION

As a result of the discussion during the joint meeting on how to move forward the ecosystem approach and in particular bring ecosystem science into the scientific advice, it was agreed that a working group co-chaired by SCICOM and ACOM should be struck to identify the medium to long-term advisory needs and the science required to support term. With a view of moving forward, Einar Svendsen and Simon Jennings prepared draft ToRs for a SCICOM/ACOM subgroup (Annex 9).

Decision: The Chair of SCICOM will seek feedback from the Chair of ACOM on the proposed ToRs and once approved, the subgroup will be tasked to draft a document on *'The Prediction of Advisory Needs'*.

Also, as a result of the discussion on Methods of Fish Stock Assessments during the joint ACOM/SCICOM meeting it was decided that the methods working group, which is due to meet in late 2009, should be requested to give the first input into the development of research into marine management tools. The Stock ID group was also asked to broaden their remit, to consider approaches from outside the traditional fisheries world.

Decision: The Chair of SSGSUE, Mark Dickey-Collas, will work with the Vice-Chair of ACOM, Carl O'Brien to make progress on this issue.

12 Strategic Initiatives

12.1 Discussion on the way forward

Climate change initiative

SCICOM has already discussed most issues (item 7.5) and has directed the Co-Chairs to complete the work according to the approved work plan. The review of the position paper (process described in Annex 3) will be a critical step that will require the involvement of all SCICOM members, including the ACOM Chair. Policy matter statements that are not approved by member countries should be rephrased or removed from the paper. Since the paper will represent the official view of ICES, it will require the consensus of the 20 member countries. It is important that this paper be a major SCIENCE product and should not be positioned as an ADVICE.

Decision: SSICC Group to complete the position paper as per the timeline approved in the work plan (e.g. submission – 1 June 2010 and publication – 1 September 2010).

Decision: Secretariat to schedule ½ day session at the May 2010 meeting of SCICOM to review the final draft and approval of the position paper.

Decision: Secretariat to organize a press event at ASC 2010 to launch the paper.

Biodiversity initiative

The Chair of SSGSUE presented the draft proposal of the Biodiversity Strategic Initiative. SCICOM generally agreed that it was an ambitious, but realistic plan. The committee discussed potential candidates to lead the initiative once the work plan is finalized and approved and advised that consideration should be given to the Chair of SGBIODIV and those who were instrumental in the developments of the proposal.

As the proposal seeks funding from the SIF, a Category 4 resolution has to be prepared and submitted to the Council for approval.

Decision: Chair of SSGSUE to contact potential candidates to explore interest in leading the initiative

Decision: Chair of SSGSUE to develop a Category 4 resolution based on the draft proposal.

Decision: Resolution to be approved by SCICOM by correspondence by 10 October 2010.

Coastal zone

Following the joint SCICOM-ACOM meeting, it was decided that the Strategic Initiative on Coastal Zones / Marine Spatial Planning would be co-led by SCICOM and ACOM. The Chair of SSGHIE presented the draft proposal of the initiative. The Committee discussed the scope of the initiative, including the balance between the coastal zone science component and the marine spatial planning component of the initiative. SCICOM agreed that this would require more thought as the proposal is refined in collaboration with ACOM. As the proposal seeks funding from the SIF, a Category 4 resolution has to be prepared and submitted to the Council for approval.

Decision: Chair of SSGHIE to develop a Category 4 resolution taking into account the draft proposal and comments to be made by SCICOM and ACOM.

Decision: Resolution to be approved by SCICOM by correspondence by 10 October 2010.

12.2 Review and evaluation of projects funded by SIF

The Bureau has asked SCICOM to set a process to review and evaluate the scientific value of the projects funded by SIF. Three of these projects are under the responsibility of SCICOM:

- The SAHFOS Project (ending 2010)
- The ICES Training Programme (ending 2011).
- Climate Change (ending 2010)

Decision: Secretariat to develop a review and evaluation process for approval by SCICOM at its May 2010 meeting.

13 ASC Theme Sessions 2010

Theme Sessions 2010

Maurice Héral presented a proposal for the theme sessions for ASC 2010. In relation to the main theme of ASC 2010 it will be Coastal Zone. For 2011, it should be Biodiversity. The ASC group has condensed 43 proposals into a package of 19 theme sessions with a view to close the conference at Friday noon. SCICOM generally agreed with the draft plan recognizing that additional work needed to be done. In the future, SCICOM would like to see proactive planning by the ASC Group and a better developed proposal for its consideration at the time of the meeting.

Decision: ASC Group to meet by correspondence/Web-ex to finalise the package for SCICOM approval by 30 October 2010.

Keynotes for ASC 2010

Although a few informal suggestions were made, the ASC Group did not make any firm proposal for speakers. The Chair reminded SCICOM of the importance of being involved in identifying good speakers for ASC, including providing opportunity for gender balance and young scientists.

Decision: Secretariat to follow up with ASC Group to identify and secure speakers.

Setup of ASC

A number of SCICOM members have raised concerns about the overall length of the ASC and business meetings before and after ASC. It was recognized that 2009 was a transition year and we could find way to be more efficient. Some suggestions were made to start the meeting Sunday rather than Saturday and have the joint SCICOM-ACOM meeting on the first Sunday. SSG Chairs stressed the need for two ½ days meetings while recognizing the preparatory work could be done by WebEx before ASC. Scheduling the business meetings after the ASC (following weeks) could not be considered for budgetary reasons.

Decision: Secretariat to develop by 23 October 2009 a proposal for business and science meetings at ASC 2010 and seek approval from Chairs of SCICOM and ACOM.

14 Publications / Communication

Pierre Pepin presented the PUBCOM report 2009 (Doc 16a; see Annex 10), which focus on four specific issues: Publications, Symposia, ICES Website and the Communication Strategy. The following summarizes the recommendations made by PUBCOM and the decisions taken by SCICOM:

Publications

Recommendations:

- SCICOM representatives to identify possible contribution to the ICES Insight and that individual lead be put in contact with the Executive Editor.
- Abolish the position of Series Editorship for the Plankton Fiches identification Sheets (starting 2010) and that a disclaimer to indicate that the material may be out of date be placed on the ICES website where the Leaflets will continue to be made available to the scientific community
- If the workload for either the Cooperative Research Reports or the Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences series increase beyond a workable load for both Editors, that ICES seeks and appoints a second Editor to the series, as necessary.
- All SCICOM representatives identify a possible contribution to the ICES Insight and that individual lead be put in contact with the Executive Editor.
- Approve 14 Category 1 resolutions (refer to section on Resolutions)

Decision: SCICOM approved the recommendations made by PUBCOM

Decision: Chair PUBCOM to develop a Category 4 resolution requesting the redirection of accumulated funds under the Marine Science Symposia series to address the requirements identified in the above recommendations.

In the report concerning JMS, the Editor-in-chief of the JMS indicated the need to maintain the commitment of the Technical Editor's (ICES) services to run the editorial office.

Decision: The General Secretary agreed that this was a high priority area.

The SSGEF Chair proposed to create a new publication series "*The ICES Conference series*", which would publicize the best ASC papers. Conveners would be asked to serve as guest editors. The full proposal is available in Annex 11.

Decision: PUBCOM Chair to review the proposal and report back to SCICOM at the May 2010 meeting

Symposia

Recommendations:

- ICES (through PUB) monitor submission to symposium issues from September 2009 to September 2011 to assess success of conveners in increasing submission rates
- Editor-in-chief to develop a point form a half-page message to be sent to conveners of specific actions that require early attention following sponsorship and allocation of JMS – this is in addition to the detailed letter that will follow separately.
- When ICES sponsorship funds are provided to cover the travel of keynote or guest speakers at symposia awarded an issue of JMS, that acceptance of the honour includes a commitment to provide a manuscript for inclusion in the symposium proceedings, which would be subject to review like all other submission.
- The letter to conveners, confirming sponsorship and access to JMS, state explicitly that all correspondence dealing with matters of publication be copied to the executive editor and the Editor-in-Chief of the journal.
- To award an issue of JMS for the publication of the symposium on *Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observation and prediction* (September 2012) and approve the costs of an additional issue of JMS.
- To award an issue of JMS for the publication of the "Societal Applications in Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remote Sensing", held in Kochi, India (15–17 February 2010) to use the JMS as an outlet for the proceedings.
- To award an issue of JMS for the publication of the *Second International Symposium on the Effects of climate change on the world's oceans* (May 2013)
- Approve 3 Category 3 resolutions (refer to section on Resolutions)

Decision: SCICOM approved the recommendations made by PUBCOM

Decision: Chair PUBCOM to develop a Category 4 resolution requesting the redirection of accumulated funds under the Marine Science Symposia series to address the requirements identified in the above recommendations.

ICES website

Recommendation:

- Hire a Consultant to assist the Secretariat in establishing the structural needs of the website.

Decision: SCICOM approved the recommendations made by PUBCOM.

Decision: Chair PUBCOM to develop a Category 4 resolution requesting the redirection of accumulated funds under the Marine Science Symposia series to address the requirements identified in the above recommendation.

ICES Communications Strategy

The latest draft of the Communication Strategy was presented at the joint SCICOM-ACOM meeting. The proposal was general well received by both Committees. Questions were raised concerning the proposed membership of PUBCOM. Some concerns were raised with the overall cost of implementing the strategy and the feasibility to secure funding.

Recommendations:

- PUBCOM membership consist of a Chair, representatives from all ICES Member Countries, along with contracted Editors and ex-officio from the Secretariat. A representative from both SCICOM and ACOM are welcome to participate in the meeting.
- To successfully implement the strategy, add two positions be to the ICES Secretariat staff: one secretary and one Assistant Editor for Public Relations

Decision: SCICOM did not take position on the membership of PUBCOM. It will be reconsidered at the May 2010 SCICOM meeting.

Decision: Chair of PUBCOM to develop a Category 4 resolution requesting resources for the implementation of the Communication Strategy.

15 Resolutions

15.1 Category 1 resolutions (Publications)

There were 14 resolutions recommended for approval by PUBCOM (see Annex 12)

Decision: SCICOM took note of the resolutions and approved them later by correspondence by SCICOM.

15.2 Category 2 resolutions (Expert Group meetings)

There were 72 EG resolutions recommended for approval by the five SSG Chairs (see Annex 12). A number of EGs were established, some renamed and a numbers abolished. Annex 13 provides a summary of these changes.

Decision: SCICOM agreed to the resolutions in principle and approved them later by correspondence by SCICOM

15.3 Category 3 resolutions (Symposia)

There were 3 Symposium resolutions recommended for approval by PUBCOM (see Annex 12)

Decision: SCICOM took note of the resolutions and approved them later by correspondence by SCICOM

15.4 Category 4 (SCICOM decisions that will require Secretariat Action)

There are a number of decisions taken by SCICOM that have financial implications. These include two Strategic Initiatives (Biodiversity and Coastal Zones/Marine Spatial Planning), Awards, Publications and the Communication Strategy. Category 4 resolutions need to be developed for each of these as they had to be reviewed by the Finance Committee and approved by the Council.

Decision: Persons identified to develop the Category 4 resolutions (refer to previous decisions in the report) will draft the resolution. The Secretariat will coordinate and seek approval of SCICOM by correspondence before 12 October 2010.

16 Action Plan 2010

The Chair presented a proposal for the development of a SCICOM Action Plan (Doc 23). Our action plan needs to demonstrate how SCICOM will deliver the ICES Science Plan 2009–13. The Action Plan has to describe first, how the 16 High Priority Research Topics of the Science Plan are addressed and secondly, what actions are being taken to enhance the delivery of the ICES Science Program. The plan would be useful to track our progress in implementing the Science Plan and would provide a review/evaluation tool.

The Committee felt it was a good idea to develop such action plan, which should be multi-years and updated on an annual basis. Concerning the proposed table of content for the plan, suggestions were made to make the linkage with academia and other organizations (under 3d) and to add Data Management (under 3e). It was also proposed that generic ToRs and Format be developed to facilitate the reporting of EGs against the plan.

Decision: Secretariat to develop ToRs and format for reporting

Decision: Put the Action Plan on the agenda of the May 2010 meeting.

17 Review and approval of Guidelines for Chairs

HoS informed the committee that the Secretariat has started the revision of the Guidelines for Chairs to match the new ACOM/SCICOM structure. The new handbook should be a dynamic, web-based document. SCICOM unanimously agreed that the guidelines should be revised.

Decision: Secretariat to finalize the Guidelines and send them to SCICOM for comments and approval.

18 SCICOM dates 2010

Next meeting

It was suggested that all conveners and EG Chairs prepare short highlights of their work for the mid-term meeting.

The next mid-term meeting will be held in **Copenhagen from 4–6 May 2010**. The venue will be communicated at a later date.

19 Any other business

The Chair of the PICES Science Board, John Stein, thanked SCICOM for allowing him to participate in the SCICOM meeting.

Cooperation between ICES and PICES has grown, which is very encouraging; both organisations are addressing complex issues. We are jointly struggling with many similar issues, such as restructuring the ASC, how to run committees, and budget matters. ICES and PICES have agreed to set up a joint strategic planning group of marine science to further build on the good interaction between our organisations. A workshop will be convened. The 2009 meeting of PICES will be held in Jeju, Korea. The annual meeting in 2010 will take place in Portland, Oregon.

20 Closing

The ACOM Chair thanked Serge for his Chairmanship during this first critical year of SCICOM.

Meeting was officially closed at 17:32.

Annex 1: SCICOM List of participants

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Chair:		
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Ted Potter, former Chair of Diadromous Fish Committee (DFC)	Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science Lowestoft Laboratory Pakefield Road NR33 0HT Lowestoft Suffolk United Kingdom	Phone +44 1502 562244 Fax +44 1502 513865 Email ted.potter@cefas.co.uk
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Annex 2: SCICOM election procedures

Chair of SCICOM:

- Nominations have to be made by SCICOM delegates. The Chair of SCICOM, Chairs of Steering Group and Administrative Group member of SCICOM; and Ex-officio are excluded.
- The election procedure is identical to the one used for the ICES Council (Appendix A) with the following exception:
 - When nominating a scientist who is not a SCICOM member, the delegate making the proposal must be able to confirm that the nominee is ready to stand up and talk about its accomplishment.
- The General Secretary is responsible for the election, represented by the Head of Science Programme.
- The candidate elected by SCICOM is recommended to the Council for approval.

Chairs of Steering Groups and Administrative Groups:

- Steering and Administrative Groups are asked to come forward with recommendations for new chairs at least one month before ASC.
- Any member of SCICOM can also propose candidates.
- When nominating a candidate, the member of SCICOM making the proposal must be able to confirm that the nominee is ready to stand up and talk about its accomplishment.
- Chairs of Steering and Administrative Groups must be able to confirm that the nominee recommended by their own Group is ready to stand up and talk about its accomplishment.
- At the ASC meeting, SCICOM deliberate on the value of the candidates proposed and try to reach a consensus.
- If a consensus is reached, the successful candidate is appointed by SCICOM.
- If a consensus cannot be reached, an election by secret ballot will be used. All members of SCICOM would be eligible to vote.
- The person that receives at least simple majority is declared elected.
- The Head of Science would be in charge of the election
- The candidate elected is appointed by SCICOM

Appendix A

ICES Council Election procedures (secret ballot) – simple majority

- 1) (Rule 5, iii b): all elections shall be decided by secret ballot after confidential nominations in writing)
- 2) Number of Countries present; define simple majority (11 if all are present)
- 3) Confidential nominations in writing, both Delegates can nominate
- 4) Names of nominees are written up publicly (white board)
- 5) Ask the nominees if they are willing to stand
- 6) Election: One vote per country
- 7) Count number of votes (in secret) – number must match with the number of countries
- 8) Read out the names and keep count in public (white board)
- 9) The person that receives at least simple majority of contracting parties represented is declared elected.

If no candidate secures the simple majority:

- 10) If there are only 2, voting shall be continued until a candidate is elected
- 11) If there are three or more, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated
- 12) If there are two or more with equal lowest votes, **a voting is made on who should be eliminated**

Annex 3: Review Process for Position Paper on Climate Change

In the background document for the Science Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (SSICC) (former SGCC) it states that the first task of the group would be to:

“prepare a white paper detailing current knowledge about the effects of climate change on the physical oceanographic properties of the ICES ocean areas and lower and higher level trophic responses to change, and directions that research and education should proceed in order to better understand and anticipate climate change effects on the marine environment”

Council agreed to convene the group and

“encouraged the Chair to broaden the scope to encompass basin scale considerations that might inter alia feed into IPCC processes”

reporting to ConC and Bureau. At its February 2009 meeting, Bureau directed SCICOM to assume the governance of the climate change project.

The group’s responsibility is to prepare the draft document, which the group proposes should serve as the *official ICES view* on climate change. Publication requires SCICOM approval because the document should represent the *consensus view* of Member Nations.

This opportunity represents a **critical** opportunity for SCICOM to demonstrate its leadership role by developing a standard for the evaluation and review of the draft white paper. Several elements come into play because the combined body of National Representatives may not have the necessary expertise to provide proper *peer review* of all sections of the document, but the timelines for publication (draft 1 March 2010; submission 1 June 2010; publication September 2010) are restrictive and require an efficient process to provide thorough vetting of the conclusions presented in the draft document.

The Chair of the PUBCOM group recommends the following process:

- A review coordinator (RC; the PUBCOM Chair is willing to volunteer) will work with the SSG Chairs, identify external reviewers with relevant expertise and/or interest for each section of the draft document to provide a **technical** assessment of the material presented therein;
- The RC and/or SCICOM Chair will contact each potential reviewer to establish their willingness and ability to provide a prompt (3 weeks) review of the relevant section(s) of the white paper – where gaps are created, the RC will consult with the appropriate SSG Chair to identify alternates;
- On receipt of the draft white paper, the RC will distribute the draft document in its entirety for the EG Chairs to review, and identify the relevant chapters for special attention;
- The RC will collate all comments for distribution to SCICOM Members, edit the document with the Executive Editor to include the recommendations, and distribute the report along with the comments (particularly if differing views were provided concerning specific elements);
- SCICOM members will be asked to provide a review of **policy matters** for the entire draft document, focusing on specific requirements for revision (writing, deletion, change) to be collated by the RC;
- Final discussion of required revisions to take place during a half day session at SCICOM meeting in May 2010, coordinated by SCICOM Chair;

- Final comments and requirements for revisions to be collated by RC and secretariat;
- SCICOM Chair to transmit requirements to SSICC co-chairs for revisions by deadline;
- Final review by RC, SCICOM Chair and Executive Editor;
- Production of Cooperative Research Report for distribution at the 2010 ICES Annual Science Conference.

Annex 4: SSGRSP Report 2009

Chair: Yvonne Walther (Sweden)

SSGRSP vision

The Regional Sea Programmes defined during the meeting in ICES ASC 2009 an overall vision of the SCICOM Steering Group. The mandate given was to create Regional Programmes starting with Baltic and North Sea. To use the advance made in Integrated Assessments for application in other areas that may be interested in creating similar programmes (current suggestions under development are Bay of Biscay and a NW Atlantic initiative)

The challenge will be to identify real world application of science with a spatial interest at Regional Seas level. A key issue will be creating guidelines for Integrated Ecosystem Assessments (IEA) and provide means to perform IEAs on a Regional level. SSGRSP also suggests creating a workshop in 2010, introducing ecological-economical modelling into management tools in.

ToRs for each EG

ToRs for each EG was evaluated in draft resolutions. Special attention was given to connecting the EGs. ToRs were added to EG on crosscutting issues with other EGs. As the first year of the SG is a building phase of a new conceptual framework no other extensive changes were made. The ToRs for the Integrated assessment EGs will be redefined in 2010. The SCICOM members in the Steering Groups were assigned to be the responsible parties for linking the EG ToRs and the Science Plan in the future work.

Roadmap for 2010–2011

- 1) Meetings of the Integrated Assessment Expert Groups as milestones. Web Ex meetings will follow the EG schedule (November 2009, may 2010) to incorporate results in SSGRSP. (SGRSGP)
- 2) Participate in mixed demersal fishery North Sea workshop in November. (North Sea Programme)
- 3) Meeting with BONUS representatives for discussing BONUS contributions and co-operation with SGRSP, January 2010 (Baltic Sea Programme)
- 4) The Working Group on Large Marine Ecosystem Program Best Practices (WGLME-BP)
- 5) 1st Workshop on preparing guidelines for Regional Ecosystem Benchmark Assessments (October 2010). Resulting in Co-operative Research report.
 - a) At workshop compare regional approaches and methods:
 - b) What methods do we use?
 - c) What models are used?
 - d) What components are considered and are important?
 - e) What outputs are generated?
 - f) How are the outputs used?
 - g) Preparing guidance as an output – ICES CRR.

- 6) Redefining ToR for Regional Seas Programme Expert Groups and create a new Expert Group with the purpose of providing a forum for the development of methods applicable across all regions. Other expert groups will have an operational focus for doing the assessments necessary to feed into the regional sea ecosystem benchmarks. (start ASC 2010)
- 7) 2nd workshop on with an operational focus with internal customers: showcase Regional Ecosystem Benchmark Assessments to ICES groups based upon North Sea and Baltic Sea examples, building the bridge between SICOM and ACOM in terms of operational delivery of Ecosystem benchmarks on a regional sea basis. This to be in association with 2011 ICES ASC.
- 8) 3rd workshop including external customers/stakeholders (2011)
- 9) ESASS symposia 2011, if sponsored by ICES. One participant from ICES, suggestion on of the EG chairs from IA Expert Groups.

Comprehensive activities

Developing of Programmes; Bay of Biscay/IBISROOS and NW Atlantic.

Identify other areas of interest for Regional Sea Programmes.

Identify and establish contact with customers/stakeholders/organisations of interest to SSGRSP. (Product: Information letters on SSGRSP activities)

Identification of crosscutting issues with other SSGs

SSGRSP–SSGSUE : Draft resolution for a Workshop on Introducing coupled ecological – economic modelling and risk assessment into management tools [WKIMM]. Similar activity has also been requested by SGICZM (under SGHIE)

Managed by SSGRP and reporting to both SGs

SSGRSP–SSGSUE: Workshop on anchovy, sardine and climate variability in the North Sea and adjacent areas [WKANSARNS].

Managed by SSGRP and reporting to both SGs

SSGRSP–SSGSUE–SSGHIE–SSGEF: Working Group on Large Marine Ecosystem Program Best Practices [WGLME-BP]

Managed by SSGRP and reporting all groups.

Issues to be discussed with ACOM

The current Integrated Assessments are not giving full operational focus for doing the assessments necessary to feed into the advice system. The work is more considered as integrated summaries of Ecosystems. The SSGRSP would like to produce outputs of pointing solutions which go beyond single species stock assessments and benchmark for Integrated Ecosystem Assessments. Carl O'Brien (Vice chair of ACOM) has suggested attending WGIAB and WGHAME to assure an iterative process with ACOM and the Integrated Assessments.

Annex 5: SSGESST Report 2009

Chair: Bill Karp (USA)

Introduction

SSGESST met for the first time in Berlin, Germany, during the 2009 ICES ASC. The steering group brings together EGs with expertise and interest in the following broad areas:

- Planning, coordinating and implementing surveys and the subsequent analysis, interpretation and reporting of survey data;
- Fish behaviour, fisheries technology, and conservation engineering;
- Sampling and observational technologies, including acoustics, optics, and complementary technologies;
- Ocean observing systems.

SSGESST activities will contribute to many of the 16 research topics in the Science Plan, with the following identified specifically:

- Biodiversity and the health of marine ecosystems;
- Top predators (marine mammals, seabirds, and large pelagics) in marine ecosystems;
- Sensitive ecosystems (deep-sea coral, seamounts, Arctic) as well as rare and data-poor species;
- Integration of surveys in support of EAM;
- Impacts of fishing on marine ecosystems;
- Influence of development of renewable energy resources (e.g. wind, hydropower, tidal and waves) on marine habitat and biota;
- Marine living resource management tools,

In general terms, SSGESST will focus on the following goals (draft overarching ToRs for SSGESST):

- 1) Maintain, standardize and consolidate assessment surveys as necessary and appropriate;
- 2) Encourage and support creativity and innovation which focuses on applications of advanced technologies for observing, monitoring and surveying marine ecosystems;
- 3) 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 and innovative technological approaches; and
- 4) 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.

Strategy

- 1) Maintain, standardize and consolidate assessment surveys as necessary and appropriate

Many of the EGs within SSGESST are responsible for planning and carrying out regular stock assessment surveys. It is essential that this work continues but, at the same time, greater emphasis should be placed on standardization and consolidation. During 2010, strategies for addressing this ToR will be considered, in particular, the possibility for creating one or more umbrella EGs to guide the standardization and consolidation process.

- 2) Encourage and support creativity and innovation which focuses on applications of advanced technologies for observing, monitoring and surveying marine ecosystems

Establishment of SSGESST strengthens the linkages between EGs primarily responsible for surveys and monitoring and EGs with special expertise in advanced technology and fishing technology/conservation engineering. ICES has traditionally provided opportunities for those with expertise and interest in advanced survey and monitoring technologies to share ideas and develop collaborative research projects which often lead to advances in monitoring and observation. It is important to continue and invigorate this function while increasing opportunities for interaction and meaningful collaboration with those more directly involved in the design and implementation of surveys and observing systems. Some ToRs established for 2010 will facilitate this process and “bridge the gap” between technology and survey EGs. Additional ToRs will be established for 2011 and possibilities for cross-cutting EGs will be considered.

- 3) 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 and innovative technological approaches

This specifically addresses the Science Plan research topic “Integration of surveys in support of EAM”. WGISUR (Working Group on Integrating Surveys for the Ecosystem Approach) has been established to address this goal directly, with the following directives:

- a) Develop surveys to be applicable to the ecosystem approach;
- b) Identify expert groups and develop terms of reference for them;
- c) Identify issues common to all surveys, set up workshops and manage them as appropriate;
- d) Identify complementary technology to add value to surveys.
- e) Evaluate the outcomes of WKCATDAT and make recommendations on the basis of this (see below)

WKCATDAT (the Workshop on Integrating Surveys for the EAFM) will meet in 2010 and report to WGISUR, SCICOM, SSGESST, and SSGEF. Goals of the workshop are to:

- a) Provide a comprehensive catalogue of the data required from surveys to support all aspects of the EAFM; including *inter alia* fish stock assessment, ecosystem modelling, ecosystem indicators, and process based research;

- b) Provide guidance on what factors should be considered of higher priority in modifying or improving surveys;
- c) Report on any implications from this exercise for the planning of future surveys.

Thus, WGISUR and WKCATDAT will enable considerable progress the goal of “Integration of surveys in support of EAM” in 2010 and will report back during the 2010 ASC when planning for future efforts will take place.

- 4) 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.

This focuses primarily on the Science Plan research topic “Impacts of fishing on marine ecosystems” and on the work of WGFTB and the several EGs that report through WGFTFB to SSGESST and SCICOM. Connections with other EGs under both SCICOM and ACOM (WGECO in particular) are also important. Two workshops planned for 2010 (WKPULSE: Workshop to Assess the Ecosystem Effects of Electric Pulse Trawls, and WKGILLMAN: Workshop on the Development of a Gillnet Selectivity Manual) are particularly germane. Progress towards this “Impacts of fishing on marine ecosystems” goal will be reviewed when WGFTFB meets in 2010 and again during the SSGESST meeting at the ASC. Future work will also be planned at these meetings.

EG ToRs (Highlights only)

More than 25 meetings of WGs, SGs, and Workshops reporting to SCICOM through SSGESST are planned for 2010 and details are provided in the accompanying resolutions document. Some have been identified above to illustrate the strategic approach of SSGESST. In addition, it should be noted that:

- Two new EGs will be established in 2010: the Study Group on Calibration of Acoustic Instruments in Fisheries Science (SGCal), and the Study Group on Standards in Ichthyoplankton Surveys (SGSIPS).
- Five EGs were dissolved: the Study Group on the Development of Fish Pots for Commercial Fisheries and Survey Purposes (SGPOT), the Study Group on Fisheries Optical Technologies (SGFOT), the Study Group on Survey Trawl Standardisation (SGSTS), the Planning Group on the HAC Data Exchange Format (PGHAC) and the Transition Group for Technology Expert Group Coordination and Planning (TGTECH).
- Six workshops will take place in 2010: the Workshop to Assess the Ecosystem Effects of Electric Pulse Trawls (WKPLUSE), the Workshop on the Development of a Gillnet Selectivity Manual (WKGILLMAN), the Workshop on the Determination of Acoustic Target Strength of Redfish (WKTAR), the Workshop on the Estimation of DEPM-based Spawning Stock Biomass of Sardine and Anchovy using R (WKRESTIM; delayed until 2011), the Workshop on Cataloguing Data requirements for the EAFM (WKCATDAT) and the ICES-FRESH Joint Workshop on Egg Production Methods for Estimating Fish Biomass (WKEPM).

Roadmap for 2010

Details of specific activities are provided above. In particular, scheduled meetings of WGISUR, WKCATDAT, WGFAST and related Study Groups, and WGFTFB and related Study Groups will be working on ToRs responsive to the general goals detailed in the preceding sections. SSGESST will meet by correspondence and WebEx during the year and in person at the ASC in September to plan and develop new ToRs for 2011 and beyond.

Identification of crosscutting issues with other SSGs

The work of SSGESST is of importance to most of the other SSGs, and vice versa. Specific mapping of ToRs and EG activities across SSGs will take place in 2010. In 2010, SSGEF will be directly involved in WKCATDAT and, most likely, in the subsequent meeting of WGISUR. Here it is particularly important to ensure ongoing communication and collaboration among those involved in designing and implementing new survey strategies and those who will utilise the results in support of stock assessment and the ecosystem approach.

Issues to be discussed with ACOM

Expertise is available within SSGESST to support ACOM in several areas. For EGs involved in ongoing surveys or planning and implementing new or expanded surveys, close interaction with ACOM is essential to ensure that current and possible future advisory information needs are supported. Support for ACOM relative to the “Ecosystem Impacts of Fishing” research priority continues to be of importance and is addressed primarily through WGFTFB ToRs. SSGESST EGs have also provided input to ACOM regarding other ecosystem impacts issues, such as those relating to anthropogenic noise and similar request can be expected in the future. Ongoing communication with ACOM is, therefore, essential.

SSGESST Membership

SSGESST membership consists of the Chair (appointed by SCICOM), two national SCICOM members, and the chairs of the constituent EGs, s follows:

Bill Karp, USA	SSGESST Chair	
D. Van Holliday, USA	SCICOM	
Oleg Lapshin, Russia	SCICOM	
Rudy Kloser, Australia	WGFAST	Working Group on Fisheries Acoustic Science & Technology
Dominic Rihan, Ireland	WGFTFB	ICES - FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology & Fish Behaviour
Cindy van Damme, The Netherlands	WGEGGS	Working Group on North Sea Cod and Plaice Egg Surveys in the North Sea

Jens Ulleweit, Germany	WGMEGS	Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Surveys
Leonie. Dransfeld, Ireland	WGNEACS	Working Group on the North-east Atlantic continental slope survey
Ingeborg de Boois, The Netherlands	WGBEAM	Working Group on Beam Trawl Surveys
Karl-Johan Stæhr, Danmark	WGIPS	Working Group of International Pelagic Surveys
Henrik Degel, Denmark	WGBIFS	Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group
Dave Reid, Ireland	WGISUR	Working Group on Integrating Surveys for the Ecosystem Approach
Andres Uriarte, Spain	WGACEGG	Working Group on Acoustic and Egg Surveys for Sardine and Anchovy in ICES areas VIII and IX
Jonathan Hare, USA	IGWG	ICES GOOS Working Group
Benjamin Planque, Norway, K. Kristinsson, Iceland	WGRS	Working Group on Redfish Surveys
Francisco Velasco, Spain	IBTSWG	International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group
Ciaran O'Donnell, Ireland	WGNAPES	Working Group on Northeast Atlantic Pelagic Ecosystem Surveys
(Dave Reid, Ireland), Norman Graham, Ireland	SGEM	Study Group on combining gear parameters into effort and capacity metrics
Julia Parrish, USA, and François Gerlotto France	SGFARV	Study Group on Fish Avoidance of Research Vessels
Bent Hermann, Denmark, Waldemar Moderhak, Poland	SGTCOD	Study Group on Turned 90° Codend Selectivity, focusing on Baltic Cod Selectivity
Ewen Bell, UK	SGNEPS	Study Group on Nephrops Surveys
David Demer, USA	SGCAL	Study Group on Calibration of Acoustic Instruments in Fisheries Science
(Cindy van Damme, The Netherlands)	SGSIPS	Study Group on Standards in Ichthyoplankton Surveys

Annex 6: SSGEF Report 2009

Chair: Pierre Petitgas (France)

Opening of the Meeting, Adoption of the Agenda and Appointment of Rapporteurs

The agenda was adopted. Daniel Duplisea and Niall Ó Maoiléidigh were appointed as rapporteurs for the meeting. Between 37 and 47 people attended the meeting.

SSGEF workplan

SSGEF discussed the need to link the work of the EGS more implicitly with the 16 High Priority Research Topics (HPRTs) outlined in the ICES Science Plan. Generally, it was felt that this should mean little change to the previous work which was carried out but with a more directed focus and more integration and co-ordination of EGS within the SSGEF and other SCICOM Steering Groups.

In this regard the Chair proposed to add two new TORs to all of the EGS :

Report by March 15 on potential contributions to the high priority topics of ICES Science Plan by completing the document named 'SSGEF_workplan.doc' on SharePoint. In doing so, consider your current expertise and rank the contributions by High, Low or Medium importance.

Prepare contributions for the 2010 SSGEF session during the ASC on the topic areas of the Science Plan 1.4.5 and 1.2.3, which cover 'Individual, population and community level growth, feeding and reproduction, The quality of habitats and the threats to them and Indicators of ecosystem health'.

SSGEF reporting

The Chair proposed that the EG reports at the ASC should be based on selected topics linked to the HPRTs of the Science Plan and specifically to the HPRTs under 4.1 of the plan which were under the remit of the SSGEF. In this way reports from SSGEF would be more topical and progressive as the topics could be chosen to service the Science Plan. Progress could then be reported to SCICOM in a document or a position paper. "Operational" issues such as changes in EG chairs, composition or attendance etc would be dealt with separately at the meeting (or by prior correspondence) so that there was a clear distinction between the reporting of the science and dealing with the support roles of the SSGEF. Each EG was tasked with reviewing their potential contribution initially focusing on HPRTs associated with 4.1 of the ICES Science Plan and linked with the three Strategic Initiatives (Climate Change, Biodiversity and Coastal Zone issues). Each of the HPRTs was matched up with the current expertise of the EGS. (see 'SSGEF_workplan.doc' on SharePoint). The HPRTs which were well supported and not well supported within the SSGEF were identified. A TOR for each EG of the SSGEF (see above) was developed to ensure each EG provided some feedback on two specific HPRTs topics (1.2.3 and 1.4.5).

SSGEF membership

The suggested membership was: a Chair elected by SCICOM, all of the EG chairs and a number of SCICOM members. It was also suggested that there should be a small support group to maintain communications and assist with the development of

documents agendas, reports etc. This should comprise at least three SCICOM members and three chairs of the EGs on a rolling basis.

Establish / Close Groups

The outgoing chair of the Recruitment Processes WG reported that there had been problems getting people to attend the meetings and with replacing the chair. An associated problem was that other EGs had been established with overlapping objectives particularly in the field of fish recruitment modelling. This now meant that there was a gap for other marine organisms. It was clear that expertise was spread between other EGs and not necessarily missing from ICES. An alternative group which dealt mainly with the reproductive biology of marine organisms, recruitment and with ecosystems could have a broad membership. SSGEF proposed that the working group therefore be disbanded but reconstituted with something more appropriate at a later stage. A theme session could be put forward with a view to encouraging “new blood” back into the process and to ensure that there would be sufficient support for a future working group.

The Study Group on Life History and Ecology of Small Pelagic Fish had previously worked by correspondence, but did not compile a report for 2009. It had finalized a CRR but there was no plan for further specific work. An alternative study group was proposed called “Small Pelagic Fisheries – their Ecosystems and Climate Impact – SGSPEC”. This group could work by correspondence to set up goal oriented workshops. The outcome should be at least one joint paper in a peer reviewed journal and could encourage multi-disciplinary approaches.

SSGEF proposed that the group previously dealing with phytoplankton would become the Working Group on Phytoplankton and Microbial Ecology (WGPME) and have its TORS updated to evaluate amongst other things the possibilities for a comparative analysis of multiyear time series of phytoplankton and microbial plankton. There were also linkages to SCOR. A supporting Theme Session in 2010 on the “Ecological response of microbial plankton to global change process in ocean basins shelf seas and coastal zones” was also proposed. The WGPME could have links to the Working Group on Zooplankton Ecology.

SSGEF also agreed that TGRECORDS (Transition Group on Science Requirements to Support Conservation, Restoration and Management of Diadromous Species) would now become WGRECORDS with broadly similar TORs. A proposal for a Study Group on International Post Evaluation of the EU Eel Management Plan was agreed. This would report to WGRECORDS.

A proposal was considered by SSGEF for a Study Group on Climate Related Changes in the Benthos of the North Sea. The Benthic Ecology WG would be the parent but the Study Group could also report to the SSGHIE.

The Working Group on Zooplankton Ecology proposed a Study Group on Traditional and New Molecular Approaches to Stock Identification and Taxonomy. This area had become under-represented in recent years and that it was important for ICES not to lose track of new developments in this important field. This group could meet by correspondence to pull together the relevant expertise so that there would be a forum for taxonomists in ICES.

Theme Sessions

A document with all of the proposed Theme Sessions was being updated almost daily and was on the SCICOM SharePoint site. The Chair of SSGEF instructed anyone with new resolutions to be added or edited to do this directly on the SharePoint.

Publications

The Chair pointed out that the idea of the new structure was to integrate EG results. This leads therefore to publications and in particular to CRRs. Draft resolutions for ICES CRRs and TIMES indicated that there were not a lot of papers being produced. Status Reports are produced regularly by the Working Groups on Oceanic Hydrology and Zooplankton Ecology. The issue of the low number of hard copies of the Status Reports was raised. It is felt that these were very suitable for passing on to managers, politicians and other vested stakeholders as they were very well presented and generally impressed the people receiving them. There was a need to update the series on Harmful Algal Blooms.

SSGEF proposed that the recent report "Eel management plan and eel guidance" produced by the WKAREA might be a suitable candidate for the CRR.

Any Other Business

The meeting considered the role and name of SGCC within SSGEF and SCICOM and the ability of SGCC to both send terms of reference to other groups and also to receive the reports of these groups directly. The results of this discussion were later reported to SCICOM and the fate of this group and its specific issues were dealt with directly by SCICOM.

Annex 7: SSGSUE Report 2009

Chair: Mark Dickey-Collas (The Netherlands)

SSGSUE Vision

The steering group on sustainable use of the ecosystem is a group tasked with the development and the delivery of science targeted within the ICES thematic research area "Development of options for sustainable use of ecosystems". Its central approach is to integrate across scientific disciplines and regions. It must work closely with the advisory side of ICES to ensure that the science in this core research area is relevant, forward looking, challenging and also rewarding to the participating scientists.

Key to this vision is ensuring that we have the right expertise, tools and data to allow provision of management advice at all levels including single-stock fishery advice, fleet-based fishery advice, ecosystem based management and integrated management advice for ocean use. It must also highlight the apparent bottlenecks which prevent uptake of knowledge in the advisory process.

SSGSUE considers its four research topics (described in the ICES science plan) as themes which underpin and guide its science, rather than as four separate research directions. In other words none of the four is considered an isolated research direction. To achieve the goals of SSGSUE scientists must operate within a range of these research fields and also actively collaborate with scientists working in other ICES steering groups.

Roadmap for 2010

The approach to each of the four research topics was different, depending on the input prior to, and at the ICES ASC.

Marine living resource management tools

After an intense discussion, which continued at the joint ACOM/SCICOM meeting it was decided that the methods working group, which is due to meet in late 2009, should be requested to give the first input into the development of research into marine management tools. The Stock ID group was also asked to broaden their remit, to consider approaches from outside the traditional fisheries world. Development in this area is only likely to occur in close collaboration with operational modelling and marine spatial planning. These issues will be addressed again in January 2010, once the reports of the working groups have been considered.

Operational modelling combining oceanographic, ecosystem, and population processes

There are a few science expert groups in ICES which can already be considered as key to developing operational models through either modelling activities or data collation. These include multi-species assessment methods, quantifying all fishing mortality, operation oceanographic products for fisheries and environment groups and others such as WGECO and others on the advisory side. However it is a great challenge to deliver an integrated approach to the science area. SSGSUE agreed to develop an approach which will be explained to SCICOM during the May 2010 meeting.

Marine spatial planning, including the effectiveness of management practices (e.g. MPAs), and its role in the conservation of biodiversity

This topic is highly relevant to the strategic initiatives of ICES. Much discussion was had and it was felt that ICES knew what it wanted in terms of support for advice but was less clear about the science required and its future research directions. SSGSUE found the input from ACOM very useful. It is probable that ICES may have to look outside its usual community to ensure that its science direction is relevant. Thus SSGSUE felt that it should contribute to the discussions about the launch of the two new strategic initiatives and then wait to see the direction of the initiatives, before developing a further plan.

Contributions to socio-economic understanding of ecosystem goods and services, and forecasting of the impact of human activities

Contributions and presentations were given to SSGSUE from a number of scientists on the relevant approaches and the science need in this area. Extra terms of reference were developed for the fisheries systems working group (which is due to meet in October 2009) to address the future needs of ICES in terms of improving socio-economic understanding and to move forward from the findings of the risk assessment study group. The fisheries systems working group is clearly fisheries oriented and thus SSGSUE needs to consider what other approaches are needed, if necessary, for understanding socio-economics of other marine ecosystem goods and services that interact with living resources. The working group on fisheries systems report will be available at the beginning of 2010.

Identification of crosscutting issues with other SSGs

Much of the work of SSGSUE is relevant to the other thematic steering groups, but also to the regional seas programmes and ACOM. The areas of marine spatial planning and biodiversity (the two new strategic initiatives) require crosscutting consideration. It would not be productive for SSGSUE to act in isolation on these issues.

Issues to be discussed with ACOM

ACOM input is considered key when addressing the issues of operational modelling and marine living resource management tools. SSGSUE must look forward to future science needs and promote innovation and partnership with ACOM on developing the science agenda for these issues.

Strategic Initiative Biodiversity

SCICOM decided that SSGSUE should lead the strategic initiative on biodiversity. Members of SSGSUE built the first draft of the biodiversity proposal which was then given to SCICOM and ACOM for comment and adaptation. SSGSUE acknowledged that ICES does not have in-house all of the expertise required for forward looking science in this area, so it approached academics from outside the ICES community to help develop the initiative.

Annex 8: SSGHIE Report 2009

Chair: Thomas Noji (until 27 September 2009), Erik Olsen (from 28 September 2009)

ToRs for each EG

All EGs were given the following additional TORs:

- Report to SSGHIE on potential and current contributions of your EG to the SCICOM Strategic Initiative on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (SSICMSP). [Supporting information: This strategic initiative is currently being planned and suggestions from EGs on their engagement in the SSICMSP are sought.]
- Report to SSGHIE on your plans to promote cooperation between EGs covering similar scientific issues. [Supporting information: Collaboration across EGs is encouraged and may be facilitated by e.g. inviting EG chairs and/or key members to attend meetings of your EG, and to use teleconferencing and videoconferencing as means to engage participants remotely.]

Some comments on EG- specific TORs:

These comments are intended to guide the development of ToRs for the respective EGs.

WGICZM: Most ToRs support the SCICOM Strategic Initiative. Note also that recommendations from this EG also are addressed through implementation of a Science Strategic Initiative on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning.

SGIMC: Should work closely with SSGHIE, particularly WGMS, MCWG and WGBEC. Should this group be transferred to SSGHIE?

WGMS: The recommendation "Continue the ICES input, e.g. through the WGMS chair, in the process on the development of a Guidance document on Chemical Monitoring of Sediment and Biota under the Water Framework Directive. Ultimately, the WFD Guidelines should resemble the OSPAR Guidelines as closely as possible, particularly in the case of the normalization technical annex reviewed and updated during this meeting. This will be increasingly important in the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive." It is noted that this will help to bridge the gap between the Water Framework Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directive. It is recommended that the MCWG work jointly with WGMS and SGIMC on this task.

MCWG: - Ocean Acidification will be a new major issue for this EG. There may be a problem to retain the current chemical oceanographers in this group.

WGAGFM: - Need a stronger focus on mariculture. At present all TORs are related to wild fish. Can an analysis of genetic diversity by a useful tool in the ICES area for evaluating impacts of human activities on habitats and biota? Can this approach be used to determine vectors or gradients in human disturbance?

WGFCIFS: - There is a session of particular interest on Climate the Coastal Zone at the ICES/PICES/FAO Symposium on "Climate Change Effects on Fish and Fisheries: Forecasting Impacts, Assessing Ecosystem Responses, and Evaluating Management Strategies" in Sendai, Japan, April 26-29.

WGHABD: Can the occurrence of HABs in the ICES area be associated with discrete sources of anthropogenic activity such as nutrient input? If so, provide examples and recommendations for acceptable threshold inputs.

WGBEC: The Chair, John Thain, has agreed that the EG will do its best to complete the OSPAR request 2010/1 and provide advice on improvements and extensions of methodologies for application to plankton and at different spatial scales. However it is acknowledged that this will be time consuming, and delivery of a product meeting the needs of the client is questionable within the prescribed timeframe. It was agreed with ICES (Claus Hagebro) that this was acceptable and would be communicated by ICES to the client.

WGMASC: Working collectively with other relevant EGs such as WGPDMO, report on the effect of mariculture on the environment. If possible report on criteria determining a threshold above which ecosystem functionality becomes unsustainable? Conversely, what are the most critical environmental factors and thresholds determining the sustainability of mariculture operations?

WGPDMO: Fish disease monitoring data can be used in evaluating the effects of climate change on fish health and effects of disease on population dynamics, to provide essential baseline data to serve as a reference prior to establishment of the culture of marine species, and to better understand pathogen interactions between wild and farmed fish. The EG revisited the issue of important effects of diseases on recruitment, mortality and stock structure of commercial and non-commercial fish species at its 2010 meeting. An extended literature review should be carried out intersessionally, including information on disease-associated population effects in shellfish (e.g., oysters and lobsters).

Roadmap for 2010

- A key task for SSGHIE will be to establish an efficient yet inclusive way to work. At the ASC we proposed having the steering group open to all EG chairs and experts appointed by Chairs. SSGHIE meetings at ASC should be public, while intersessional meetings will be for members or by invitation only. To have a more efficient organization for urgent matters, it was suggested that 5 of the EG chairs, the SSI chair and SSGHI chair will make up a Core group responsible of overseeing how the EGs follow the TORs and work in relation to the ICES Science Plan..
- Intersessional meetings of SSGHIE will in 2010 be conducted by teleconference and videoconference.
- SSGHIE will have a face-to-face public meeting at ASC in Nantes 2010.
- Planning and implementation of a Science Strategic Initiative on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (SSICMSP); see below.

Science Strategic Initiative on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (SSICMSP)

- SSGHIE has designated the SSICMSP development team. Members so far: B. Morales-Nin (chair), T. Noji and E. Olsen, but membership will be expanded in October 2009. It is acknowledged that strong input from ACOM is desirable, and this might be best conducted as a joint initiative.
- The first step of this Strategic Initiative is the development of an implementation plan for presentation and consideration at the SCICOM meeting in May 2010

- The SSICMSP members will work mostly by correspondence, teleconference and videoconference.
- The SSICMSP core team or key members will meet in conjunction with WGICZM meeting on Mallorca in March 2010.
- A detailed Guidance Memo for the development of this Strategic Initiative is under development and a preliminary version of this Memo has been given to the SCICOM chair, ICES Head of Science and the Secretariat.

Identification of crosscutting issues with other SSGs

SCICOM Strategic Initiative on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning (SSICMSP) has links to all of the SSGs

- Effects of climate change on the coastal zone.
- Advanced sampling techniques and appropriate methodologies for improved assessment of habitat condition.
- Spatial planning in regional seas. Unifying ecosystem properties, common issues and common approaches to management.
- Evaluation of functional value (goods and services) habitat. Carrying capacity of habitats / ecosystems / management areas.

Issues to be discussed with ACOM

The nature and extent of cooperation in the development and implementation of the SSICMSP.

Annex 9: Sub Group on Prediction of Advisory Needs

By Einar Svendsen and Simon Jennings, ASC, 27 September 2009

Role:

To provide EG chairs with well considered, clearly documented and concise notice of future advisory, and hence science needs, as influenced by forthcoming changes in marine and environmental policy and ICES strategy.

Subgroup composition:

ACOM Chair

ACOM Vice-Chairs

SCICOM Chair

SSG Chairs

Relevant science/ advisory experts invited by above

Meeting:

Meet by correspondence

Process:

Subgroup produces a short document, updated annually, to report on expected medium to long term advisory needs and the science required to support them.

Timing:

Document drafted by correspondence in Quarters 1 and 2

Document released before SSG Chairs meet EG Chairs at ASC

Audience:

All EG Chairs

Example of content:

(with apologies to ICES countries not affected by the MSFD!)

Relationship between fisheries advice and achievement of Good Environmental Status (GES)

Issue: The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) aims to achieve GES for ecosystem components and attributes that will be impacted by fishing (and other human activities). The role of the CFP in contributing to the achievement of GES is already specified in the text of the MSFD. This states that (1) measures regulating fisheries that are needed to achieve GES can be taken using the CFP and (2) that the CFP and forthcoming revision of the CFP should take into account the environmental impacts of fishing and the objectives of the MSFD. These statements imply that clients of advice will need to know how different management options affect not only single species biomass but also affect progress towards achieving GES. This will require an assessment of the consequences of different management options on the distribution

and intensity of fishing activity and the consequences for ecosystem components and attributes that are monitored to provide indicators of progress in relation to GES.

Timescale: ACOM expected to start delivering advice that considers the effects of fishery management actions on GES from 2011.

General questions to address when developing ToR for EG (not comprehensive):

- 1) What would be the format of the new advice?
- 2) Which existing tools can be applied / which new tools are needed to deliver it?
- 3) Which existing monitoring programmes contribute/ which new monitoring programmes/ strategies need to be developed to support the advice?
- 4) Which new science knowledge is needed?

Examples of recommended ToR for EG (not comprehensive):

- 1) Develop, apply and report on a method to assess the effects of a range of management options (specify) for xxxx demersal species on the values of indicators for the Environmental Status of seabed integrity (habitat) as defined by the relevant ICES-JRC group.
- 2) Develop, apply and report on a method to assess the effects of a range of management options (specify) for xxxx demersal species on the values of indicators for the Environmental Status of food webs as defined by the relevant ICES-JRC group.
- 3) Assess and report on the effects of discarding in xxxx ecoregion on the values of indicators of the Environmental Status of biological diversity as defined by the relevant ICES-JRC group.

Contact: e.g. Name of relevant ACOM Vice-Chair who could be contacted to elaborate on the science needs in relation to this topic.

Annex 10: Report of the ICES Publications and Communications Group (IPCG)

The Committee met Sunday 20 September 2009 (Chair, Pierre Pepin (Canada)), with Canada, France, Germany, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States present, and with representatives of Oxford University Press, the ICES Secretariat, the ICES JMS and the ICES Techniques in Marine Environmental Science present.

Matters arising from PUBCOM, ConC and SCICOM meetings

The Group noted that all the recommendations from the 2008 meeting had been approved by the Consultative Committee had been acted upon during the year.

The issue of greatest importance during the year involved the dissolution of the Committees, and the formation of the Transitional Group on ICES Publications (TGIP) by Council, with essentially the same mandate as the Publications Committee (PUBCOM) with the additional requirement to develop a proposal for a Communications Strategy. During the May meeting of SCICOM, the Committee created of the ICES Publications and Communications Group (IPCG), with the combined responsibilities outlined in the Communications Strategy. The response of the Science Committee in relation to the role of the past Publications Committee has been very positive. Pierre Pepin (Canada) was appointed as Chair until 31 December 2011. The Group was tasked with completion of the Communications Strategy, review the potential restructuring of the ICES Website, develop new Terms of Reference for the Group and consider issues of membership.

More approvals of CRRs and TIMES are being requested and produced continuously by Expert Groups. A number of interim approvals had been provided by the Chair during the course of the year. The system can only accommodate a finite number annually, so excessive numbers can result in delays in publication. The increasing workload is creating a strain on the small publications department at ICES.

An ICES entry for the Wikipedia website was authored by Emory Anderson (US) and the Executive Editor (Bill Anthony – ICES) and uploaded to the site. The current entry still requires editing and updating, but it provides considerable improvement over the previous contribution.

Digitization of all ICES Marine Science Symposia published prior to 1991, was approved by Council with immediate effect although the work could not start until October 2009. **The estimated cost of this task was US\$15 000, but is likely to increase by 30 – 40 % because of issues related to the quality of the archived documents.**

The normal workload for the CRR series Editor has been increased considerably by the length and numbers of CRRs, with many documents exceeding 50 printed pages in length, and the expected number of CRRs for 2009 is expected to increase substantially. The Chair requested that the honoraria be adjusted to reflect increased workload. SCICOM agreed that the CRR Editor be granted an additional honorarium of £250 per additional issue beyond the normal workload of four issues per year, and that an additional £50 for each twenty (20) page increment above the normal 80 printed pages for all CRRs handled during the course of one year. The same would apply if the workload for the TIMES editor were to increase similarly.

During the year, the Chair provided input to SCICOM concerning interim requests for symposium sponsorship. The “Fifth International Zooplankton Symposium” (Pucón, Chile) and the “Symposium on the Hydrobiological and Ecological System Conditions in the ICES and NAFO Areas” (Santander, Spain). Both were allocated places in the IJMS.

Reports

Report by ICES Executive Editor

The publications group had a busy year but there were no special developments. The only unusual situation that we had was at the beginning of the year, when we started using the Manuscript Central system. Both Søren and Bill Anthony spent at least six weeks working exclusively on that, and it put our whole agenda behind schedule. It is hard to under-emphasize the disruption that the implementation of Manuscript Central caused the Publications Department.

Issue 46 of *ICES Insight* appeared at the beginning of September and was distributed at ICES 2009 Annual Science Conference. The magazine will be useful in the coming year as a tool to reach beyond the community of ICES interests to a wider audience. The dependency on voluntary contributions has made it difficult to provide a representative view of the activities going on in ICES Member Countries.

- *IPCG recommends that all SCICOM representatives identify a possible contribution to the ICES Insight and that individual lead be put in contact with the Executive Editor.*

ICES JMS Editors' report:

- Volume 65 (for 2008) consisted of three symposium issues and six standard issues, within the 1800-page budget for that year, all issued electronically and in hard copy either on time or slightly in advance.
- Up to the end of 2008, the numbers of pages and manuscripts published (excluding symposia) seem to have plateaued.
- 2009 has thus far been massively challenging to Editors and support staff in terms of quantity of copy produced (including a supplement and one double-length symposium issue), and annual page budget will be slightly exceeded (by some 30 pp.). When finally published in December, Volume 66 will consist of a massive 2270 pp., six regular issues (1184 pp.; 126 mss, including full papers, Short Communications, and Comments; Figures 2 and 3), three symposium issues (January, July, and September; 873 pp.; three Introductions plus 112 mss), and one August supplement (213 pp.; Introduction plus 21 mss). For the first time in 2009, Volume 66 (of 2009) was already committed fully in terms of page budget (including a slight authorized overrun) by the end of June (the earliest that this situation has occurred before has been mid-September).
- Very few manuscripts accepted by the editors now fail to be published in, at worst, the 12 months following initial submission.
- The overall rejection rate, i.e. primary and after review, plus withdrawals, remains at almost 50%.
- The regularity of publication of issues is controlled by a strict publishing cycle and deadlines, and issues now appear approximately every six

weeks, or slightly less in 2009. Starting in 2011, the issues will be published 6 times a year, with symposia being produced as separate volumes but at the same time as regular issues. This will avoid concerns raised by regular contributors concerning the appearance of their work and provide an easy scheduling mechanism.

- The Editors have decided to seek an increase in the page budget of 100 pages starting in 2011.
- The annual citation rating issued in midyear dropped slightly in 2009, but the overall trend remains upwards. There are several reasons for that. For example increasing the rejection rate, and influential symposia help increase the citation index. Maybe the recent symposia have not met the criteria of scientific topicality, if that is a criterion for the establishment of symposium subjects. We believe that the symposia should be selected on the basis of topicality to ICES. However, the citation based on a 2 year running mean is not considered an effective reflector of the use of information from ecological and oceanographic journals, where the 5 year index is more appropriate.

ICES JMS Publisher's report:

- *Oxford University Press* is moving the emphasis in pricing toward the online version. This is probably the format that librarians want. We have frozen the online price. This is a sympathetic reaction to the current recession, and has been well received.
- Most of the 2009 issues have published ahead of or on schedule. Most of the papers have fallen within OUP's four-week receipt-to-online publication target. The symposia issues are creating the unpredictability in publication times.
- Most of the symposia issues are not taking up their full 250-page page allocation.
- All of the 2008 consortia deals have been renewed for 2009. Because Russia, India, and Brazil have all had their developing country status changed because they're GDP has gone up significantly. They are no longer eligible to receive the free online issues. In general, circulation is going up.

Issues related to the Journal

There are a number of matters related to the journal that have arisen based on both the Editor's and the Publisher's reports that were open for general discussion. The first item identified for action involved the need for a Mission Statement for the general. The Mission Statement is intended to portray that the overall objectives are to produce a quality journal that was based on good papers. Following comments from the Editors and the Group, the document was finalized and will appear on the *Journal's* website (appendix 1). An editorial for the first issue of the next year will be prepared and will include the mission statement.

The issue of increasing the rejection rate to possibly increase the citation rating of the journal was discussed. The Group specified that any policy should ensure that the ICES Member Countries all have equal opportunity to publish in the journal. This is a keystone of ICES, but it is also important to maintain that the objective is to provide an outlet for high quality research. It was noted by members from non-native English speaking countries that the efforts of the Editors and ICES staff to assist with cor-

recting the manuscript for errors in style and grammar, when possible, is greatly appreciated and serves as a reason for considering the journal as an outlet for their work. The consensus view of Group members and *ex officios* was that the journal should not aim to increase the rejection rate artificially. The Mission Statement provides the scope for dealing with manuscripts that may not fit well within the journal's objectives.

The Editor-in-chief of the JMS indicated the need to maintain the commitment of Søren Lund's services to run the editorial office (~80%). The General Secretary agreed that this was a high priority area.

ICES Cooperative Research Reports (Emory Anderson)

- Proceeding effectively and backlog of outstanding material clearing gradually.
- Because of the standards introduced by the former PUBCOM, the document series are becoming more attractive to ICES Expert Groups as an outlet for their work.
- Seven CRRs have been published since October 2008
- Two have been submitted and edited, but not yet published
- Fourteen resolutions have outstanding manuscripts, many of which have submitted revised dates. Some are still outstanding. One dates back to 2003.
- There were a total of 9 resolutions for publications of CRRs; all were recommended for approval.

ICES Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences (Paul Keizer).

- In last year's report, it was noted that consideration was being given to using the TIMES to publish some of the technical advice that is provided to ICES' clients (OSPAR). ACOM has discussed this and are supportive of this approach as a way of providing wider dissemination of the advice. It also provides recognition of the considerable work of the authors and should result in a higher quality product for our clients.
- Two manuscripts have been published since the 2008 ASC and one is in-hand.
- Eleven resolutions have outstanding manuscripts.
- Eleven new resolutions were submitted for the publications of TIMES documents; all were recommended for approval.

ICES Identification Leaflets for Diseases and Parasites of Fish and Shellfish. Editor's Report (/Steve Feist).

- Fifty-six leaflets are currently available as scanned documents on the ICES website. All of these have been reviewed to establish whether they require updating with new information since their original publication (between 1984 and 1999).
- Most are still current but seven were identified as requiring updating. New versions have been drafted and these will be submitted to ICES by the end of 2009.

- In addition, four new leaflets have been proposed the first two of which already exist in draft form.
- The Secretariat has just sent to a new template to Susan Ford and Stephen Feist for use with the new issues.

ICES Identification Leaflets for Plankton (Steve Hay).

- The essence of the report is that this series is somewhat outdated. The Editor has approach many scientists seeking their willingness to update the existing Leaflets but has had no success.
- The Series Editor recommended that:

The position of Series Editorship for the Plankton Fiches identification Sheets be discontinued from 2010 and that a disclaimer to indicate that the material may be out of date be placed on the ICES website where the Leaflets will continue to be made available to the scientific community. – As of now there is no need for an editor for this series. The recommendation was endorsed by IPCG.

- IPCG did recognize for the needs of the community as a whole in terms of making information taxonomic information available. As a result, the Group added a Term of Reference to for the Study Group on Integrated Morphological and Molecular Taxonomy (SGIMT), sponsored by the Working Group on Zooplankton Ecology through the SSGEF.

Issues pertaining to document series

Because of the standards introduced by the former PUBCOM, the document series are becoming more attractive to ICES Expert Groups as an outlet for their work. The quality of both series has increased through the rigor that has been applied to the documents by the series editors and also for the work that is being done in the Secretariat. The quality improved in several quick steps, and we've gotten a response from the ICES community. This has implications for our contract Editors and Secretariat staff who are incredibly dedicated.

The Group recommends that if the workload for either the Cooperative Research Reports or the Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences series increase beyond a workable load for both Editors, that ICES be seek and appoint a second Editor to the series, as necessary.

The ICES Communications Strategy

The key elements for the strategy include the enhancement of the current publications department to include the development of public outreach tools, for example, regular weekly or monthly press releases and detailing ICES activities, upcoming advice from ACOM, interpretive articles aimed at informing the general public. The establishment of an ICES Communications Department and the continued involvement of ICES Publications and Communications Group will allow an efficient and effective communication of ICES activities. Through proactive management of the ICES website we will ensure ease of access to ICES information.

The Communication Strategy has several key elements. This proposal outlines the guiding principles for the development of a communications strategy for ICES. It involves the development of a multifaceted Communications Department within the Secretariat.

The following are aspects key to a communications strategy.

- Crucially, a communication strategy would reach out to that portion of the marine science community not currently active in the organization.
- A communication strategy should develop interpretative articles aimed at informing the general public of key findings by EGs or of major collaborative efforts in which ICES played an important role.
- A communication strategy should foster links with news organizations in order to keep marine science in the public eye. It would publicize position papers developed through SCICOM and provide an outlet to EGs through which key initiatives could be highlighted.
- A communications strategy should ensure ease of access to information to the scientific and broader community through proactive management of the ICES website. The ICES website should serve as a portal for the marine science community to access information concerning the activities of related organizations.
- ICES should remain firmly at the cutting edge of the dissemination of scientific information and be able to make available the vast archive of ICES material through its website. A communication strategy should bring ICES into line with current information-dissemination technologies and anticipate upcoming developments.

The responsibility for the area of ICES communications is currently diffuse and undefined. Although ICES is well recognized within the marine science community, its activities are often not transparent to those not directly involved with ICES. The establishment of an ICES Communications Department and the continued involvement of ICES Publications and Communications Group will allow an efficient and effective communication of ICES activities.

It is recommended that

Two positions be added to the ICES Secretariat staff:

- *A department secretary*
- *Assistant Editor for Public Relations*

For that purpose, it is recommended that a position be created immediately that combines responsibilities from both positions. This will allow a period of 12 to 18 months during which it will be possible to define key responsibilities and refine areas of accountability.

The latter is essential if Secretariat staff are to meet the increasing demands for publications expected with the greater number of resolutions being submitted while ensure significant progress to greater emphasis on Public Relations. The preparatory work of defining constituencies and planning schedules will begin immediately under the guidance of the Executive Editor.

In addition to the Communications Department, the ICES Publications and Communications Group serve and the body to provide oversight of ICES activities surrounding all dissemination media with the following Terms of Reference:

In 2010, the **ICES Publications and Communications Group** (IPCG – Chair: Pierre Pepin (Canada)) will meet by correspondence during the year, and for one day during the Annual Science Conference, to:

1. Provide advice and oversight on all ICES publications and communications activities;
2. In coordination with the ICES Secretariat, ensure that the ICES web site is overhauled in order to better serve ICES and the broader marine science community;
3. Finalize and implement the public outreach component of the ICPG's strategy;
4. Further develop those ICES publications media that serve the aims of the ICES Science Plan.

IPCG will report to the SciCom and the ACom at the Annual Science Conference.

In addition, IPCG recommends:

- *That the Group membership consist of a Chair, representatives from all ICES Member Countries, along with contracted Editors and ex officios from the Secretariat. A representative from both SCICOM and ACOM are welcome to participate in the meeting.*

The Chair noted that many of the current members of the Group consist of Delegates, which gives strength to representation on Council but which takes away from taking action during the meeting of the Group because the Delegates are often unable to take part because of other demands. It is particularly for Delegates from Baltic States and non-native English speaking countries. Two ways to deal with this dilemma are suggested:

- That Delegates designate alternates who could participate during the annual meeting of the Group
- That the Chair of the Group provide a special briefing for Delegates following the meeting of IPCG to identify issues that require the particular attention of Council.

Issues with Symposia

Recent submissions from symposia have been coming up short of their 250 page allocations. The cause rests largely on the shoulders of symposium conveners who have not been proactive in seeking submissions. The Chair of IPCG, the Editor-in-Chief, he and the Head of Science have formulated an addition to the letter informing conveners of ICES sponsorship and JMS access (see appendix 2). ICES ability to offer symposium issues is one of its great attractions. The speed of publication is also another attractive feature.

However, in order to assess whether the allocation of 250 pages is overly generous, the Group recommends:

- *ICES (through PUB) to monitor submission to symposium issues from September 2009 to September 2011 to assess success of conveners in increasing submission rates*
- *That the Editor-in-chief develop a point form a half-page message to be sent to conveners of specific actions that require early attention following sponsorship and allocation of JMS – this is in addition to the detailed letter that will follow separately.*

The Publishing Editor and the Editor-in-chief will develop the toolkit with information for conveners about how to handle publications. Furthermore, IPCG recommends that:

- *When ICES sponsorship funds are provided to cover the travel of keynote or guest speakers at symposia awarded an issue of JMS, that acceptance of the honour include a commitment to provide a manuscript for inclusion in the symposium proceedings, which would be subject to review like all other submission.*

The Group noted that in June the Conference on Marine Bioinvasions had declined their request for publication in the ICES Journal of Marine Science but that the Journal Editors had not been informed. It is recommended that

- *The letter to conveners, confirming sponsorship and access to JMS, state explicitly that all correspondence dealing with matters of publication be copied to the executive editor and the Editor-in-Chief of the journal.*

The withdrawal of the Conference on Marine Bioinvasions created a gap in the 2010 publishing schedule, which we closed by changing the publication schedule for the UNCOVER symposium by a month. However, this created a gap in the 2011 publication schedule. Through the Head of Science, a request was received from the organizers of the symposium on “Societal Applications in Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remotely-sensed Imagery” (SAFARI) to use JMS as the outlet for the proceedings, without seeking ICES sponsorship. After discussion, the Group recommended *that the organizers of SAFARI be granted an issue of JMS for publication in March of 2011.*

There were two Category 3 resolutions considered during the meeting:

- The **“Second International Symposium on the Effects of climate change on the world’s oceans”** to be held in May 2012, at Yeosu (Korea) with the support of IOC, PICES, and ICES, can be accommodated in the current schedule without conflict.
 - *IPCG recommends that if the symposium is supported by SCICOM, that the organizers be awarded an issue of JMS for publication May of 2013*
- The Symposium on **“Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observation and prediction”** will be held during late May or early June 2011, in Seattle, Washington, USA with G. Hunt (USA), Ólafur Astthórsson (Iceland), and Michio Kishi (Japan) as Co-conveners, is of great interest to ICES and the Journal. However, there is a conflict with the existing commitments in the symposium schedule that would require an additional issue to the annual publication schedule.
 - *IPCG recommends that if the symposium is supported by SCICOM, that the organizers be awarded an issue of JMS for publication September of 2012. However, ICES, or another sponsor, will have to cover the costs of the additional issue of JMS.*

The scheduling of symposia issues has become problematic and somewhat *ad hoc*. To resolve scheduling conflicts, uncertainty on behalf of symposium organizers and Guest Editors, the Group identified two solutions:

- Beginning in 2011, the journal will be published every two months (starting in January) to yield six regular issues. Symposium issues will be produced on the same schedule, thereby resulting in the production of two issues during a calendar month when a special issue is planned. Consequently, both volumes will be sent out in the same mailing, thereby reducing costs and resource requirements.
- All symposium organizers with publication dates in 2010 and beyond will be informed of their assigned issues, thereby eliminating uncertainty and establishing clear timelines for submission, review, assessment, revision, resubmission, decision and final editing.

As a result of this action, all publication conflicts can be resolved within the existing time frame as long as the Guest Editors and conveners are agreeable to the solution.

ICES website

ICES serves a wide range of programs and activities that generate, and require access to, a vast amount of diverse content. Generally, the current ICES website is confusing, often making it cumbersome, even impossible, to locate the desired information. Items and areas of information were added without considering sufficiently the impact on the site's logical structure. The problem stems from the way the website has grown.

- Problem of overall organization: It is difficult or impossible for a user to find what they are looking for.
- Problem of page design: Although the basic design of the ICES website pages has been praised, the complaint arises that pages are too cluttered with superfluous information that makes it difficult to focus on or even discover the purpose of the page.

The solution requires that the ICES website must be reorganized to provide fast and easy access to all content. Its structure must be transparent with clear connections to the main areas of information. There needs to be comprehensible connections to subordinate content, as well as obvious links between main areas of information. This will involve the need to develop a new structure based on Special Areas of Interest (SAI) which will group information around logical areas of interest. Furthermore page types will have to be defined – only by limiting the kinds of pages can coherence and clarity be achieved.

IPCG identified four concrete steps:

- *That Special Areas of Interest be defined from the existing list of information sources on the ICES website.*
- *That the Executive Editor and the Head of the Data Centre consult with ACOM and SCICOM to identify the contents of their landing pages as well as other landing pages within their sphere of interest.*
- *That a Consultant be hired to assist the Secretariat to establish the structural needs of the website. The anticipated cost are 50 000 – 100 000 DDK.*
- *That the recommendations from the Consultant serve to guide a call for proposals to identify a Web Designer that is to be contracted by ICES. The anticipated cost are 100 000 – 250 000 DDK.*

CM Documents

The availability of CM documents (draft papers) at the ASC is a long standing tradition at ICES. Each year, there has been a growing number of inquiries from authors about the potential implications for dual publications if the work is intended for the primary literature. IJMS has an open policy but other journals may not – a standard reply statement was prepared in 2008 to deal with the inquiries. It has been ICES policy to allow the inclusion of extended abstracts rather than full papers. In 2009, 62% of presentations submitted full documents, reflecting a general downward trend (2002 – 73%; 2003 – 72%; 2004 – 65%; 2005 – 60%; 2006 – 80% 2007 – 76%; 2008 – 69%). The highly variable submission rate, along with comments from many authors, suggests that the preparation of CM documents is not a priority. The submission of increasing numbers of extended abstracts also suggests that ASC participants are not submitting their highest quality work for fear of rejection from primary journals. Some CM documents are sometimes cited quite extensively but the information often does not appear in the primary literature as *peer reviewed papers* after presentation at the ASC. One possible view is that some material that appears in CM is not of the high standard required for primary publication.

The Group considered whether it would be appropriate to discontinue the CM document series. Many expressed a view that such documents were not considered in most promotion processes and that in fact their preparation, and ICES' general instance to include the material on the ASC CD-ROM, could be viewed as an inefficient use of scientists' time. However, the Group concluded that this was not necessarily so in all ICES Member Countries and that the series should be continued until such time as the returns do not justify the investment by the ICES Secretariat.

However, the Group does recommend that:

- *The notice of acceptance sent to paper and poster authors be changed to state they are "encouraged to submit a draft document for inclusion in the CM document series but that the request was not mandatory".*

Other matters

- IPCG discussed the need to ensure that historical aspects of ICES be maintained in a more active manner. Although the archives are generally well organized, what issues of ICES history should serve as the focus of attention in order not to lose the material or information is unclear. The Group determined that for a start, an informal Study Group, consisting of ICES veteran scientists and staff, explore the possible avenues of action.

Appendix 1: Mission Statement for the *ICES Journal of Marine Science*

The *ICES Journal of Marine Science* is the flagship publication of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea. It will provide an outlet for quality articles, short communications, Food for Thought perspectives, critical reviews, and comments that contribute to the scientific understanding of marine systems and the impact of human activities.

The *Journal* will be distinguished by its interdisciplinary nature and breadth, and will service not only the ICES community, i.e. scientists in its member and observer countries, but also those in other countries whose scientific aims and interests are similar to those of ICES. Its remit will be to publish manuscripts that increase international understanding of marine science and that are generally in keeping with the ICES Science Plan, through as broad as necessary an international selection of material. Cutting-edge science will receive preferential treatment, but consideration will be given also to the output from fundamental research that underpins the activity of working scientists and advisors.

The *Journal* will serve, *inter alia*, as a foundation for scientific advice across the broad spectrum of management and conservation issues related to the marine environment, and of freshwater and estuarine resources with life-cycle links to marine systems. Oceanography, marine habitats and ecosystems, living resources, and related management topics will constitute the key elements of papers eligible for consideration, along with integrated studies that bridge gaps between traditional scientific disciplines, and economic, social and public administration studies directly related to management of the seas and of general interest to marine scientists. All such works to be published should demonstrate originality, a non-short-term significance of their underlying message, be of high quality and present clear integration of their contribution with existing knowledge.

The *Journal* will strive for speedy consideration and publication of quality material, i.e. standard submissions, symposium submissions derived from ICES-authorized and -supported symposia, and suites of topical articles presented at ICES and non-ICES events. It will publish in hard copy and electronically all such material deemed of high standard and broad interest, to high technical standards of content, grammar, and style. All material will be given fair consideration if in grammatically acceptable English, although manuscripts in French can also be considered by prior arrangement.

The *Journal* will seek to maintain its position as a publishing outlet of choice for marine scientists within and outside the ICES community. To do this, it will *inter alia*: ensure that its editorial staff are of the highest quality and command respect internationally, and that its support facilities and ICES-tenured staff are sufficient to meet its immediate and future needs; develop a strong partnership with a commercial publisher of good reputation; and adapt swiftly to changing circumstances in the competitive environment that is science publishing today while retaining international scientific respect across appropriate marine scientific disciplines.

Appendix 2: Addition to the letter of acceptance allocating an issue of JMS to symposium conveners

The allocation of an issue of the *ICES Journal of Marine Science* (IJMS) for publication is made competitively with others seeking the same avenue, and it places responsibilities on symposium organizers to ensure the production of a high quality issue of the Journal. They are required to take a proactive role in seeking manuscript submissions to ensure that the quality and number of papers selected for publication (generally 25–30 accepted manuscripts per issue of 250 pp.) is representative of the strongest contributions and elements leading to the meeting's success. Invited speakers in particular should be strongly encouraged to prepare and submit a manuscript of their presentation. There should be a clear statement of the opportunity to submit a manuscript to the proceedings when participants are informed that their contribution has been accepted for either an oral or a poster presentation. Ideally, the manuscript should be brought to the conference which also facilitates keeping to the turnaround time of 15 months between submission and publication. In addition, the symposium website should indicate prominently that IJMS will be the avenue for publication of the proceedings, the intended date of printed appearance, and provide a clear deadline for the submission of manuscripts. It is also essential that the conveners identify the Guest Editor(s) for the issue early in the planning process for the symposium, and that he/she be put in contact with the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, Dr. Andy Payne (andy.payne@cefas.co.uk), for final arrangements concerning publication of the proceedings.

Annex 11: Proceedings of the ASC: ICES Conference Series

By Pierre Petitgas, SSGEF Chair, Berlin, 27 September 2009

Rationale

One of the objectives of the new structure is to integrate Expert Group results on the High Priority Research Topics (HPRT) of the Science Plan and make these visible. Publication is therefore instrumental in delivering the Science Plan.

The ASC allows on-going science to be presented and discussed. Presently, this works very well. But nothing much remains after the ASC. The meeting reports are for the historical records of ICES. The CM papers are very grey literature and authors often do not write them anymore. One may question how many are read. Proceedings of the ICES Conference are lacking. They would be instrumental in delivering the Science Plan in a visible way. Not all material will be published in peer-reviewed literature, not all topics will be dealt with through symposia, special issues or Cooperative Research Reports. Proceedings of the ICES Conference would allow to present the major progress on a large range of topics and would be instrumental in integrating science. Also, proceedings would allow to extract highlights from Expert Group reports, show how active ICES is to the greater scientific community.

A series of proceedings existed in the past: *Rapp. P.-V. J. Const. Int. Explor. Mer.*. A new series could be created: The ICES Conference series. Unfortunately publication in ICES is greatly limited. Solutions are proposed below to address reviewing and publishing issues with minimal costs.

Similarly as for the CM papers of the ASC, reports of the Expert Groups (EG) are also CM referenced and are very grey. They though often contain worthwhile materials, which stay buried. What procedure could allow to extract those materials that (1) are interesting in themselves (highlights) and (2) contribute to the HPRTs? A procedure could be to have the EGs report on topics during the ASC and publish their contributions in the proceedings. Reporting of EGs at the SCICOM Steering Group (SSG) meetings during the ASC could be organised in a topical manner, in sessions addressing the HPRTs.

The Proceedings would be additional to the CM documents (EG reports and ASC papers). But EG reports could become more factual (e.g., summary of minutes) and the detailed science results reported in the proceedings series.

Contents of the Proceedings

The volume could contain 3 sections. The first section could be a selection of contributions of EGs to the HPRTs presented at SCICOM topical reporting sessions during the ASC. The second section could be made by selected highlights from the Expert Groups independently of the Science Plan. The third section could be the one of the ASC proper. That section would contain a selection of CM papers/posters presented at the ASC in the Theme Sessions.

The annual CalCOFI report series has different sections where articles, mini-symposium and reports of committees are published. This series is published annually since 1950 and is freely available on-line (www.calcofi.org/publications/ccreports.html). To illustrate, a copy of the contents of the 2008 volume is presented on Figure 1. A sketched of the contents of the ICES Conference Series is on Figure 2.

Reviewing

A reviewing process is necessary. Guest-editors could select presentations at the ASC and arrange for the reviewing of the corresponding papers. The SSG Chairs could be the guest-editors of the topical sessions relative to the EGs. The Theme Session convenors could be the guest-editors of the Theme Sessions. What type of review needs further discussion as we are concerned by publishing proceedings and not peer-reviewed journal papers.

Publishing

The series could be published on-line and paper volumes sold. Formatting the papers and copy-editing them, tasks usually done by the publisher, would probably need to be undertaken by ICES secretariat.

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Figure 1: Contents of the CalCOFI report series illustrating the sections published.

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(xx papers prepared by the Egs and reviewed)

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(xx papers prepared by the Egs and reviewed)

III- Proceedings of the Annual Science Conference

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...

Figure 2: Proposal on how to structure the ASC Proceedings.

Annex 12: Overview of 2009 Resolutions

Category 1: ICES Publications

2009/1/SSGHIE01 (CRR)	Cooperative research report on HABs in the ICES Area. (WGHABD)
2009/1/SSGESST02 (CRR)	The report on Fish Pots (SGPOT)
2009/1/SSGESST03 (CRR)	The report on the Fisheries Optical Technologies (SGFOT)
2009/1/SSGESST04 (CRR)	The report on the Avoidance of fish to research vessels (SGFARV)
2009/1/SSGHIE05 (TIMES)	Guidance for monitoring polychlorinated dibenzodioxanes and furans (PCDD/Fs) and planar chlorinated biphenyls (CBs) in marine biota and sediment (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE05 (TIMES)	Guidance for monitoring polyfluorinated compounds (PFCs) in marine biota, sediment and seawater (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE05 (TIMES)	Guidelines for passive sampling of hydrophobic contaminants in water using silicone strip samplers (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE06 (TIMES)	Guidance for monitoring polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) in marine biota and sediment (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE06 (TIMES)	Guidance for monitoring polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs) in marine biota and sediment (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE06 (TIMES)	Guidance for monitoring hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) in marine biota and sediment (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE06 (TIMES)	Guidance for monitoring organotins in marine biota (MCWG)
2009/1/SSGHIE07 (TIMES)	The method for determining 'Alkylphenol metabolites in fish bile (WGBEC)
2009/1/SSGHIE08 (TIMES)	Permission is requested to publish The method for determining 'Reproductive Success in Eelpout' (WGBEC)
2009/1/SSGHIE09 (TIMES)	Permission is requested to publish the method for 'Sea Urchin Embryo Bioassay' (WGBEC)
2009/1/SSGEF10 (TIMES)	The ICES Position paper on Climate Change (SSICC)
2009/1/ACOM11 (CRR)	The report on the Alien Species Alert: Crassostrea gigas (Pacific oyster) (WGITMO)
2009/1/SSGEF12 (CRR)	Contributed reports on Climate Impacts on Marine Ecosystems (Brander/WGECO)
2009/1/SSGEF13 (CRR)	Best practice for marine mammal and seabird bycatch observer schemes (ACOM and WKOSBOMB)
2009/1/SSGEF14 (CRR)	The report on the ICES/GLOBEC Workshop on Long Term Variability in SW Europe (WKLTVSWE)

Category 2 SCICOM Expert Groups under the new SCICOM structure

SCICOM Steering Group on Ecosystems Function (SSGEF)

SSICC	Science Strategic Initiative on Climate Change
EWPPCC	Editorial Workshop for the Position Paper on Climate Change
SGBICEPS	Study Group on Biological Characteristics as Predictors of Salmon Abundance
WKMCCEI	Workshop on How models help us to understand climate change evolution and impacts in the regional oceans
SGCBNS	Study Group on Climate related Benthic Processes in the North Sea
WGBIODIV	Working Group on Biodiversity Science
WGPME	Working Group on Phytoplankton and Microbial Ecology
WGOH	Working Group on Oceanic Hydrography
WGCEPH	Working Group on Cephalopod Fisheries and Life History
WGSE	Working Group on Seabird Ecology
SGBALANST	Study Group on data requirements and assessment needs for Baltic Sea trout
WGZE	Working Group on Zooplankton Ecology
WKMOR	Workshop on Understanding and Quantifying Mortality in Fish Early/Life Stages: experiments, observations and models
WGPBI	Working Group on Modelling of Physical/Biological Interactions
BEWG	Working Group on Benthos Ecology
WGCRAb	Working Group on Biology and Life History of Crabs
WGCRAb	Working Group on Crangon Fisheries and Life Histories (2001 C. Res)
SGIMT	Study Group on Integrated Morphological and Molecular Taxonomy
WGRECORDS	Working Group on the Science Requirements to Support Conservation, Restoration and Management of Diadromous Species
SGIPEE	Study Group on International Post-Evaluation on Eels
SGSSAFE	Study Group on Salmon Stock Assessment and Forecasting
SGAESAW	Study Group on Anguillid Eels in Saline Waters
WGSPEC	Working Group on Small Pelagic Fishes, their Ecosystems and Climate Impact

SCICOM Steering Group on Human Interactions on Ecosystems (SSGHIE)

WGBEC	Working Group on Biological Effects of Contaminants
WGPDMO	Working Group on Pathology and Diseases of Marine Organisms

MCWG	Marine Chemistry Working Group
WGMS	Working Group on Marine Sediments in Relation to Pollution
WGICZM	Working Group on Integrated Coastal Zone Management
SGONS	IOC-ICES Study Group on Nutrients Standards
WGMASC	Working Group on Marine Shellfish Culture
WGEIM	Working Group on Environmental Interactions of Mariculture
WGHABD	ICES - IOC Working Group on Harmful Algal Bloom Dynamics
WGEXT	Working Group on the Effects of Extraction of Marine Sediments on the Marine Ecosystem
WGFCIFIS	Joint PICES/ICES Working Group on Forecasting Climate Change Impacts on Fish and Shellfish
WGAGFM	Working Group on Application of Genetics in Fisheries and Mariculture

SCICOM Steering Group on Sustainable Use of Ecosystems (SSGSUE)

WGMHM	Working Group on Marine Habitat Mapping
WGEVO	Working Group on Fisheries Induced Adaptive Evolution
WGLMEBP	Working Group on Large Marine Ecosystem Program Best Practices
WGOOFE	Working Group on Operational oceanographic products for fisheries and environment
SIMWG	Stock Identification Methods Working Group
WGSAM	Working Group on Multispecies Assessment Methods

SCICOM Steering Group on Regional Sea Programmes (SSGRSP)

SGEH	Study Group for the Development of Integrated Monitoring and Assessment of Ecosystem Health in the Baltic Sea
WGIAB	ICES/HELCOM Working Group on Integrated Assessments of the Baltic Sea
WGNARS	Working Group on the Northwest Atlantic Regional Sea
WKANSARNS	Workshop on Anchovy, Sardine and Climate Variability in the North Sea and Adjacent Areas
WKIMM	Workshop on Introducing Coupled Ecological –economic modelling and risk assessment into management tools
ICSSAS	ICES/ESSAS Workshop on Ecosystem Studies of Sub-Arctic Seas

SCICOM Steering Group on Ecosystem Surveys Science and Technology (SSGESST)

WKPULSE	Workshop to Assess the Ecosystem Effects of Electric Pulse Trawls
WGMEGS	Working Group on Mackerel and Horse Mackerel Egg Surveys
WGIPS	Working Group of International Pelagic Surveys

WKEPM	ICES-Fresh Joint Workshop on Egg Production Methods for Estimating Fish Biomass
WKGILLMAN	Workshop on the Development of a Gillnet Selectivity Manual
IBTSWG	International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group
WGBIFS	Baltic International Fish Survey Working Group
WGISUR	Working Group on Integrating Surveys for the Ecosystem Approach
WKCATDAT	Workshop on Cataloguing Data Requirements from Surveys for the EAFM
SGFARV	Study Group on Fish Avoidance of Research Vessels
SGCal	Study Group on Calibration of Acoustic Instruments in Fisheries Science
WGFAST	Working Group on Fisheries Acoustic Science & Technology
SGTCOD	Study Group on Turned 90° Codend Selectivity, focusing on Baltic Cod Selectivity
WGFTFB	ICES - FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology & Fish Behaviour
WKTAR	Workshop on the Determination of Acoustic Target Strength of Redfish
WGNEACS	Working Group on the North-east Atlantic continental slope survey
WGBEAM	Working Group on Beam Trawl Surveys
IGWG	ICES GOOS Working Group
WGRS	Working Group on Redfish Surveys
WGNAPES	Working Group on Northeast Atlantic Pelagic Ecosystem Surveys
SGSIPS	Study Group on Standards in Ichthyoplankton Surveys
SGNEPS	Study Group on Nephrops Surveys
WGEGBS	Working Group on North Sea Cod and Plaice Egg Surveys in the North Sea
JFATB	Joint Workshop of the ICES-FAO Working Group on Fishing Technology and Fish Behaviour (WGFTFB) and the Working Group on Fisheries Acoustics Science and Technology (WGFAST)
WKRESTIM	Workshop on the Estimation of DEPM-based Spawning Stock Biomass of Sardine and Anchovy using R

Category 3: ICES Co-sponsored Symposia

- 2009/3/SSGHIE01 The “Second International Symposium on the Effects of climate change on the world’s oceans” to be held in May 2012, at Yeosu (Korea) with the support of IOC, PICES and ICES and [Sarah Hughes, UK] as ICES Convener.
- 2009/3/SSGEF02 A Symposium on “Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observation and prediction” to be held during late May or early June 2011, in Seattle, Washington, USA with George Hunt (USA), Ólafur Astthórsson (Iceland), and Michio Kishi (Japan) as Co-conveners.
- 2009/3/SSGHIE03 The 2nd International Symposium on Integrated Coastal Zone Management to be held 3–7 July 2011, at Arendal, Norway, with Erlend Moksness as Convener.

Category 4: Resolutions involving Secretariat Action

Note – These resolutions will be submitted for the Council approval.

- 2009/4/SCICOM01 The ICES Biodiversity Task Group will prepare for the ICES strategic initiative on biodiversity over the period October 2009 to October 2010
- 2009/4/SCICOM02 SCICOM and ACOM recommend the formation of Strategic initiative for Coastal Zones and Marine Spatial Planning (SICZSP).
- 2009/4/SCICOM03 That ICES redirect residuals funds that accumulated under the Marine Science Symposia series to [1] cover costs for consultation and design costs for the redevelopment of the ICES website, [2] cover the costs of production to deal with the increasing number of submissions to the technical document series (Cooperative Research Reports; Techniques in Marine Environmental Sciences), [3] plan to increase the base budget for the production of the two technical reports series starting in 2012 to meet the anticipated needs for publication of Expert Group findings.
- 2009/4/SCICOM04 The General Secretary will create immediately [1] one position of Assistant Editor for Public Relations to address the priorities and recommendations of the Communications Strategy; and [2] starting in 2012, create one position of Departmental Secretary, to assist in all aspects of communications, including publication and communications. Funding for the position of Assistant Editor for Public Relations prior to 2012 will be drawn from the Strategic Initiatives Fund.
- 2009/4/SCICOM05 Funding will be provided by the Secretariat to cover the cost of a 10th issue of the ICES Journal of Marine Science in 2012 for the Symposium on “Comparative studies of climate effects on polar and sub-polar ocean ecosystems: progress in observation and prediction” to be held during late May or early June 2011, in Seattle, Washington, USA with George Hunt (USA), Ólafur Astthórsson (Iceland), and Michio Kishi (Japan) as Co-conveners (2009/3/SSGEF02).
- 2009/4/
COUNCIL06 The Awards Committee recommends that the Council provide DKK 20,050 per year for purchase of gifts for presentation to ICES awardees and contributors: Outstanding Achievement and Prix d’Excellence Awardees, Invited Speakers, and also for Service and Merit Awards, and Theme Session, Symposia Chairs, and Expert Group Conveners.
- 2009/4/SCICOM07 The General Secretary will establish the post of a C4 Secretary in the ICES Science Programme at ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark, for a three-year period.

Annex 13: EG Summary Table

List of ICES SCICOM Expert Groups that were dissolved, established, changed committee or were renamed.

TYPE OF ACTION	NAME	CHAIR – OUTGOING	CHAIR – INCOMING
<i>Established</i>	<i>SCICOM Steering/Operational Groups</i>		
SCICOM	SCICOM Steering Group on Ecosystem Functions (SSGEF)		Pierre Petitgas, France
SCICOM	SCICOM Steering Group on Human Interactions on Ecosystems (SSGHIE)	Tom Noji (USA)	Erik Olsen, Norway
SCICOM	SCICOM Steering Group on Sustainable Use of Ecosystems (SSGSUE)		Mark Dickey-Collas, The Netherlands
SCICOM	SCICOM Steering Group on Regional Seas Programme (SSGRSP)		Yvonne Walther, Sweden
SCICOM	SCICOM Steering Group on Ecosystem Surveys Science and Technology (SSGESST)		Bill Karp, USA
SCICOM	ICES Publications and Communications Group (IPCG)		Pierre Pepin, Canada
SCICOM	Review Group of the Position Paper on Climate Change (RGPPCC),		Pierre Pepin, Canada
SCICOM	ICES Training Group (ITG)		Gerd Kraus, Germany
<i>Established</i>	<i>Expert Groups</i>		
SSGEF	Working Group on Phytoplankton and Microbial Ecology (WGPME)		William Li, Canada; Xosé Anxelu G. Morán, Spain
SSGEF	Study Group on Integrated Morphological and Molecular Taxonomy (SGIMT)		Steve Hay, UK
SSGEF	Study Group on International Post-Evaluation on Eels (SGIPEE)		Laurent Beaulaton, France
SSGEF	Working Group on Small Pelagic Fishes, their Ecosystems and Climate Impact” (WGSPEC)		Jürgen Alheit, Germany
SSGHIE	The IOC-ICES Study Group on Nutrients Standards (SGONS)		Michio Aoyama, Japan and David Hydes, UK
SSGRSP	Working Group on the Northwest Atlantic Regional Sea (WGNARS)		Steve Cadrin, USA, and Alain Vezina, Canada
SSGESST	Study Group on Calibration of Acoustic Instruments in Fisheries Science (SGCal)		David Demer, USA
SSGESST	Study Group on Standards in Ichthyoplankton Surveys (SGSIPS)		Cindy van Damme, Netherlands
SSGSUE	Working Group on Large Marine Ecosystem Program Best Practices (WGLMEBP)		Mick O’Toole, Ireland and Jan Thulin, ICES

TYPE OF ACTION	NAME	CHAIR – OUTGOING	CHAIR – INCOMING
<i>Change of Chairs</i>			
<i>Expert Groups</i>			
SSGEF	Working Group on Biodiversity (WGBIODIV)	Michaela Schratzberger, UK	Jim Ellis, UK
SSGEF	Study Group on data requirements and assessment needs for Baltic Sea trout (SGBALANST)	Stig Pedersen, Denmark	Erik Degerman, Sweden
SSGEF	Working Group on Modelling of Physical/Biological Interactions (WGPBI)	Charles G. Hannah, Canada	Elisabeth North, USA
SSGRSP	ICES/HELCOM Working Group on Integrated Assessments of the Baltic Sea (WGIAB)	Juha Flinkman, Finland	Thorsten Blenckner, Sweden
SSGHIE	Marine Chemistry Working Group (MCWG)		Katrin Vorkamp, Denmark (Co-Chair)
SSGHIE	Working Group on Pathology and Diseases of Marine Organisms (WGPDMO)	Sharon MacLean, USA	Simon Jones, Canada
SSICC/SSGEF	Science Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (SSICC)		Jürgen Alheit, Germany (Co-Chair)
SSGRSP	ICES/HELCOM Working Group on Integrated Assessments of the Baltic Sea [WGIAB]	Juha Flinkman, Finland	Thorsten Blenckner, Sweden
SSGESST	International Bottom Trawl Survey Working Group (IBTSWG)	Remment ter Hofstede, Netherlands	Francisco Velasco, Spain
SSGESST	Working Group for International Pelagic Surveys (WGIPS)	Norbet Rohlf, Germany	Karl-Johan Stæhr, Denmark
SSGESST	Working Group on Northeast Atlantic Pelagic Ecosystem Surveys (WGNAPES)	Alexander Krysov, Russian Federation	Ciaran O'Donnell, Ireland
<i>EGs renamed</i>			
SSICC/SSGEF	Steering Group on Climate Change (SGCC) will be renamed the Science Strategic Initiative on Climate Change (SSICC)		
SSGEF	Study Group on Biodiversity (SGBIODIV) will be renamed Working Group on Biodiversity (WGBIODIV)		
SSGEF	Transition Group on the Science Requirements to Support Conservation, Restoration and Management of Diadromous Species (TGRECORDS) will be renamed Working Group on the Science Requirements to Support Conservation, Restoration and Management of Diadromous Species (WGRECORDS)		
SSGESST	Planning Group for International Pelagic Surveys (PGIPS) will be renamed the Working Group for International Pelagic Surveys (WGIPS)		
SSGESST	Planning Group for North-east Atlantic Continental Slope Survey (PGNEACS) will be renamed the Working Group for North-east Atlantic Continental Slope Survey (WGNEACS)		

TYPE OF ACTION	NAME	CHAIR – OUTGOING	CHAIR – INCOMING
SSGESST	Planning Group on Northeast Atlantic Pelagic Ecosystem Surveys (PGNAPES) will be renamed the Working Group on Northeast Atlantic Pelagic Ecosystem Surveys (WGNAPES)		
SSGESST	Planning Group on North Sea Cod and Plaice Egg Surveys in the North Sea (PGEGGS) will be renamed the Working Group on North Sea Cod and Plaice Egg Surveys in the North Sea (WGEGGS)		
SSGESST	ICES GOOS Steering Group (IGSG) will be renamed the ICES GOOS Working Group (IGWG)		
SSGESST	Transition-Group on Integrating Surveys for the Ecosystem Approach (TGISUR) will be renamed the Working Group on Integrating Surveys for the Ecosystem Approach (WGISUR)		
SSGESST	Planning Group on Redfish Surveys (PGRS) will be renamed the Working Group on Redfish Surveys (WGRS)		
SSGSUE	Study Group on Fisheries-Induced Adaptive Change (SGFIAC) will be renamed the Working Group on Fisheries-Induced Evolution (WGEVO)		
<i>EGs transferred to new committee</i>			
From SCICOM to ACOM	Study Group on Salmon Age Determination (SGSAD)		
<i>Dissolved Expert Groups</i>			
SSGEF	ICES/GLOBEC Working Group on Life Cycle and Ecology of Small Pelagic Fish (WGLESP)	Pierre Petitgas, France	
SSGEF	Working Group on Recruitment Processes (WGRP)	Tom Miller, Richard Nash	
SSGRSP	Transition Group on Holistic Ecosystem Assessments and Diagnostics (TGHEAD)	Christian Möllmann, Germany; Pierre Petitgas, France	
SSGRSP	Transition Group of Integration Activities in the Baltic (TGBALT)	Yvonne Walther, Sweden	
SSGESST	Study Group on Fisheries Optical Technologies (SGFOT)	Eirik Tenningen, Norway	
SSGESST	Study Group on the Development of Fish Pots for Commercial Fisheries and Survey Purposes (SGPOT)	Bjarti Thomsen, Faroe Islands	
SSGESST	Study Group on Survey Trawl Standardisation (SGSTS)	David Reid, Ireland	
SSGESST	Planning Group on the HAC Data Exchange Format (PGHAC)	Laurent Berger, France	
SSGESST	Transition Group for Technology Expert Group Coordination and Planning (TGTECH)	Bill Karp, US	
SSGSUE	Study Group on Risk Assessment and Management Advice (SGRAMA)	Knut Korsbrekke, Norway	

TYPE OF ACTION	NAME	CHAIR – OUTGOING	CHAIR – INCOMING
	ICES/GLOBEC Working Group on Cod and Climate Change (WGCCC)	Kai Ulrich Wieland, Denmark, and Geir Ottersen, Norway	

New Workshops

SSGEF	Workshop on Understanding and quantifying mortality in fish early-life stages: experiments, observations and models [WKMOR] (approved in 2008)		A. Gallego, UK; E. North, USA; E. Houde, USA,
SSGEF	Editorial Workshop for the Position Paper on Climate Change (EWPPCC)		Philip C. Reid, UK
SSGEF	Workshop on How Models help us to understand Climate Change Evolution and Impacts in the Regional Oceans (WKMCCCEI)		Stephanie Ponsar, Belgium
SSGRSP	Workshop on Anchovy, Sardine and Climate Variability in the North Sea and Adjacent Areas (WKANSARNS)		Mark Dickey-Collas, The Netherlands; Pierre Petitgas, France; Jürgen Alheit, Germany
SSGRSP	Workshop on Introducing Coupled Ecological – Economic Modelling and Risk Assessment into Management Tools (WKIMM)		Jörn Schmidt, Germany and Rasmus Nielsen, Denmark
SSGRSP	ICES/ESSAS Workshop on Ecosystem Studies of Sub-Arctic Seas (ICESSAS)		George Hunt, USA, and Ken Drinkwater, Norway
SSGESST	Workshop to Assess the Ecosystem Effects of Electric Pulse Trawls (WKPLUSE)		Bob van Marlen, Netherlands
SSGESST	Workshop on the Development of a Gillnet Selectivity Manual (WKGILLMAN)		Andy Revill, UK and Rene Holst, DK
SSGESST	Workshop on the Determination of Acoustic Target Strength of Redfish (WKTAR)		Benjamin Planque, Norway and Mike Jech, USA
SSGESST	Workshop on the Estimation of DEPM-based Spawning Stock Biomass of Sardine and Anchovy using R (WKRESTIM)		M. Bernal, Spain
SSGESST	Workshop on Cataloguing Data requirements for the EAFM (WKCATDAT)		D. Reid, Ireland
SSGESST	ICES-FRESH Joint Workshop on Egg Production Methods for Estimating Fish Biomass (WKEPM)		Stylianos Somarakis, Greece, Cindy van Damme, Netherlands, Peter Witthames, UK, Andrés Uriarte, Spain and Miguel Bernal, Spain
