



# MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR CETACEANS

*19 March 2024*

*Hotel Reykjavík Grand, Reykjavík, Iceland*

**REPORT**

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**Please cite this report as:**

NAMMCO-North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (2024). Report of the Meeting of the Management Committee for Cetaceans, March 2024.

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## 1. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair of the Meeting of the Management Committee for Cetaceans (MCC), Masaana Dorph (Greenland), welcomed participants (listed in Appendix 1) to the meeting. He noted that NAMMCO Deputy Secretary Maria Garagouni would act as main rapporteur, with support from the Secretariat.

The Chair noted that all the meeting documents (see Appendix 2) had been made available on the NAMMCO website two weeks prior to the meeting. The Chair drew particular attention to the following documents as relevant for all agenda items:

- *NAMMCO/31/MC/05: List of Proposals for Conservation and Management and Recommendations for Research generated by the MCs at their 2023 meeting, with Responses from the Parties.*
- *NAMMCO/31/MC/06: Summary of Requests from the NAMMCO Council to the Scientific Committee and Responses by the Scientific Committee.*
- *NAMMCO/31/08: Scientific Committee Report.*

The Chair noted that Parties had been invited to submit updates in writing on advances towards the implementation of previous proposals for conservation and management and recommendations for research in writing prior to the meeting. The received updates were reflected in document NAMMCO/31/MC/05.

It was also noted that all Parties had reported their latest catch statistics and that the updated numbers were available in the online NAMMCO catch database.

The Chair informed that this meeting would focus on:

- Reviewing the new information on cetaceans and responses to active requests for advice provided by the Scientific Committee during its last meeting in 2024 (SC/30).
- Considering both the new and reiterated proposals for conservation and management and recommendations for research (that have implications for stock assessment and require management action by Member Countries) made by SC/30.
- Considering updates from the member countries on the proposals for conservation and management measures discussed by MC 30 (2023).
- Making recommendation to Council regarding whether any requests may be considered completed and closed or need to be renewed.
- Proposing to Council new requests to the Scientific Committee.

## 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda (Appendix 3), which had been circulated to participants on March 4<sup>th</sup>, was adopted without modification.

## 3. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR CETACEAN STOCKS

### 3.1. NARWHAL

#### Active Requests to the Scientific Committee from the Council

- ***R-3.4.11 (2008, standing):*** *To update the assessment of both narwhal and beluga, noting that new data warrant such an exercise.*

#### Updates from the Scientific Committee

The Chair invited Aqqalu Rosing-Asvid, Chair of the Scientific Committee, to present the updates from the SC on the subject of narwhal.

As one response to R-3.4.11, the Ad hoc Working Group on Narwhal in East Greenland (NEGWG) met in December 2023 and reviewed the status of narwhal in East Greenland, with the following Terms of Reference (ToRs) pertaining to this species:

- i) To update the assessment of narwhals in Southeast Greenland using data from recent surveys.
- ii) To define suitable timeframes for abundance surveys and assessments for each specific case (species/stock).

Genetic analyses indicate that the animals supplying the spring hunt in Management Area 1 (Scoresby Sound) are distinct from the animals supplying the summer hunt in the same area. This is further supported by tracking studies, aerial surveys, and hunting records. The NEGWG reviewed abundance estimates from recent aerial surveys, including a survey that was designed and flown in close cooperation with local hunters in 2022. These were incorporated in the population models for each of the three Management Areas, which showed high probabilities that all three stocks are approaching or have reached the status of near extirpation. The spring hunt stock in Management Area 1 was not assessed, due to lack of information on its range and abundance. Preliminary estimates of the annual meat supply from large mammals, including narwhal, were calculated for East Greenland using 1993–2021 catch statistics. Narwhal meat has consistently contributed approximately 5–6% of the total large mammal meat quantity throughout this period.

### **Recommendations from the Scientific Committee**

#### ***Recommendations for Conservation and Management***

##### Greenland

- Zero catches should be allowed in all three Management Areas (strongly reiterated).
- The next assessment of each Management Area should be conducted in 2026.

In relation to the second recommendation, the SC requested guidance from the MCC on the need for continued monitoring and new assessments, considering there is no likelihood of recovery to a threshold that would allow sustainable removals within 3 years.

### **Recommendations from the Scientific Committee**

#### ***Recommendations for Research***

##### Greenland

- Deploy satellite tags on animals supplying the spring hunt in Management Area 1, as well as in Northeast Greenland, to investigate the range of the animals supplying the spring hunt.
- Collect biological samples when available from East Greenland, including areas north of Scoresby Sound, to explore genetic connectivity of different stocks.
- Investigate alternative methods to monitor depleted stocks (e.g., using targeted aerial surveys, passive acoustic monitoring, land-based surveys, mark-recapture, collecting incidental observations).
- Conduct targeted aerial surveys of Kangerlussuaq, Nansen Fjord, southern Scoresby Sound, and other reported aggregation areas during summer of 2026.

### **Comments from Parties**

Norway expressed concern that the role of the SC within NAMMCO comes into question if scientific advice is not accepted by the MCs, as does the credibility of NAMMCO itself. Iceland echoed the comments from Norway, pointing out that it is not the first time this issue has come up and not been appropriately addressed. Iceland also highlighted the precautionary approach that was agreed upon by consensus, and stated that NAMMCO needs to address cases like this one, where a stock is endangered. The Faroe Islands echoed the sentiments of the previous speakers, taking note of the SC's concern and stating that it is a situation of concern when the organisation is unable to act despite clear

scientific advice. As such, it would be beneficial to discuss how such situations should be handled, and revisit the subject during the Annual Meeting.

Greenland took note of the comments from the other Parties. With regard to the zero catch recommendation for all three Management Areas in East Greenland, Greenland have had difficulties in reaching consensus due to the following reasons: a) the need for fresh meat supply as these areas are very dependent on local food, b) the need for maintaining food traditions, c) the big discrepancy between knowledge from scientists and hunters on observations of narwhals in all three areas. The Parliament of Greenland approved a new law on hunting in June 2023. One of the main changes is “The purpose of the Greenland Parliament Act [is] to ensure an appropriate and biologically sound utilisation of the hunting resources. In the administration of the Greenland Parliament Act, emphasis shall be placed on: 1) the conservation and reproduction of the hunting resources and 2) the rational and seasonally best utilisation in accordance with usual biological advice and the available hunter and user knowledge, which are equated in assessment processes.” A draft Executive Order on the collection and use of hunter and user knowledge implementing the new law is being prepared. The Cabinet has also initiated gradual reduction of the annual narwhal quota in East Greenland from 2024. Furthermore, the Cabinet allocated funding in 2022 for an additional aerial survey of narwhal to be carried out in cooperation with local hunters, which was carried out in August–September 2022.

Regarding the estimated annual meat supply from large mammals, including narwhals, Greenland pointed out that these calculations had been made by the Greenlandic Institute of Natural Resources and not been subject to a consultation with the Government of Greenland. Moreover, the hunters in Ittoqqortoormiit had previously informed that the presence of large mammals, such as minke whales, in the area does not always guarantee that they will be available for the hunt, e.g., due to drift ice.

In light of these comments from the Parties, the MCC suggested that a modified proposal for conservation and management be forwarded to Greenland. A draft proposal was discussed by the Heads of Delegation and then reviewed by the MCC. Following this discussion, and in conjunction with the discussion on beluga (see item 3.2), a new proposal for Conservation and Management was put forward.

In relation to the SC’s request for guidance on further assessments, given that a new, expensive, full-scale survey is not likely to change the advice, Norway highlighted that the recommendation for research into alternative survey methods could form the basis for future assessments. It was suggested that the MCC propose to Council a new request directed to the SC, which would enable a new assessment of narwhal to be conducted when alternative sources of data are available.

The Secretariat noted that request R-3.4.11 should be rephrased, in order to remain standing, and suggested alternative phrasing.

### **MCC Conclusion**

The MCC **agreed** to forward the following advice for Conservation and Management to Greenland:

- i) Acknowledging the serious concern regarding the status of narwhal and beluga in East Greenland, as pointed out in the letter of concern by the Scientific Committee,
  - ii) recognising the importance of issues related to food security in the remote areas in all Management Areas in East Greenland, and
  - iii) adhering to the 8 precautionary principles adopted by NAMMCO 30,
- the MCC **urge** Greenland to implement a management approach to narwhal and beluga stocks in East Greenland aiming at zero quotas, to ensure the long-term sustainability of these stocks.

The MCC **endorsed** the SC’s recommendations for Research.

The MCC also **agreed** that Request R-3.4.11 should be rephrased “*To update the assessment of both narwhal and beluga, when new data warrant such an exercise*” and that it remains standing.

One new request to the SC was **proposed** regarding narwhal:

- The Council requests the SC to prioritise investigating alternative survey methods and survey frequency for small stocks, with a focus on beluga and narwhal in East Greenland.

### 3.2. BELUGA

#### Active Requests to the Scientific Committee from the Council

- **R-3.4.11 (2008, standing):** *To update the assessment of both narwhal and beluga, noting that new data warrant such an exercise.*

#### Updates from the Scientific Committee

The NEGWG meeting in 2023 was also tasked with the following ToRs relevant to beluga:

- To review the situation of belugas in East Greenland with participants from Norway;
- To define suitable timeframes for abundance surveys and assessments.

Catches of belugas in East Greenland have increased since 2017, with a peak of 33 animals cumulatively landed between 2022 and 2023. Genetic analyses indicate that the animals observed in East Greenland are vagrants from other populations, including stocks in the Kara Sea, Beaufort Sea, and the protected Svalbard stock. There is, as yet, no evidence of these animals establishing a local population in East Greenland, nor is there any information on their ranging patterns and seasonal movements.

The SC requested further guidance from the MCC regarding future assessments of belugas in East Greenland, given that they cannot yet be considered a stock and there are no data on behaviour and movement parameters from which to draw useful conclusions.

#### Recommendations from the Scientific Committee

##### *Recommendations for Conservation and Management*

##### Greenland

- Zero removals should be allowed, in order to allow for the potential establishment of a new population of belugas in East Greenland, and to avoid removing animals that have potentially originated from the small and protected Svalbard stock (prioritised by SC/30).
- The next assessment should coincide with the next narwhal assessment.

#### Recommendations from the Scientific Committee

##### *Recommendations for Research*

##### Greenland

- Collect incidental observations and biological samples when available, to monitor the occurrence of belugas in East Greenland (prioritised by SC/30).

#### Comments from Parties

In relation to the recommendation for zero removals, Greenland informed that, in Autumn 2022, the Parliament of Greenland imposed the Cabinet to establish a beluga quota both in Ittoqqortoormiit and Tasiilaq area. The beluga hunt has not been allowed since 2004 in East Greenland, and due to the Parliament’s decision in Autumn 2022, the beluga hunt was reopened from December 2022, allowing 30 belugas in all in the period from December 2022 to the end of 2027. Pursuant to the use of beluga for food security in East Greenland, the Cabinet then decided that the product from the hunt is only for local consumption and not allowed to be transported to Denmark or to West Greenland.

Greenland suggested that beluga be included in the recommendation for conservation and management of narwhal (see previous item). Norway seconded this motion, but stated concern that a quota was given despite a zero-catch recommendation. Iceland noted that this is a complex issue, which speaks to the core of NAMMCO's work, and suggested that the consensus method for forwarding advice to Parties be taken up under the Council agenda. Upon request for clarification from the Faroe Islands, Iceland stated that, depending on how this issue is resolved within the MCC, Council should discuss what to do in situations where an MC reaches an impasse, i.e., is unable to reach consensus on forwarding advice proposed by the SC. This could be discussed under the agenda item "Any other business".

To follow up on the recommendation to collect tissues, Greenland noted that in 2022, collection of tissue samples was attempted, but was hindered by logistical challenges. In the settlements, especially in remote areas, there is no availability of containers and storage facilities for the tissues. The transportation is also very dependent on the traffic in wintertime, which is hindered by ice and very few ship or helicopter arrivals/departures. The responsible body, the Institute of Natural Resources in Greenland, would need to organise solutions to these issues in order for the recommendations to succeed. Greenland noted that they are more than willing to help, including making information campaigns on how to collect tissues.

In relation to the SC's request for guidance, Norway suggested that the SC be requested to focus on collecting behaviour and movement data, so that new information can be supplied for an assessment as soon as possible.

### **MCC Conclusion**

The MCC **agreed** to forward the following advice for Conservation and Management to Greenland (see also item 3.1):

- i) Acknowledging the serious concern regarding the status of narwhal and beluga in East Greenland, as pointed out in the letter of concern by the Scientific Committee,
  - ii) recognising the importance of issues related to food security in the remote areas in all Management Areas in East Greenland, and
  - iii) adhering to the 8 precautionary principles adopted by NAMMCO 30,
- the MCC **urge** Greenland to implement a management approach to narwhal and beluga stocks in East Greenland aiming at zero quotas, to ensure the long-term sustainability of these stocks.

The MCC **endorsed** the SC's recommendation for Research.

Two new requests to the SC pertaining to beluga were **proposed**:

- The Council requests the SC to prioritise the collection and analysis of information to improve the understanding of stock structure of beluga whales in East Greenland, which may allow future assessments for this species in this area.
- The Council requests the SC to prioritise investigating alternative survey methods and survey frequency for small stocks, with a focus on beluga and narwhal in East Greenland.

### **3.3. WHITE-BEAKED, WHITE-SIDED, AND BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS**

#### **Active Requests to the Scientific Committee from the Council**

- **R-3.9.6 (renewed 2019, pending):** To carry out assessments of dolphin species for which there are removals.

#### **Updates from the Scientific Committee**

The Chair invited Garagouni to present the SC updates on dolphins.



In response to request R-3.9.6, the SC convened a Working Group on Dolphins (DWG) for the first time in Autumn 2023, with the following ToRs:

- i) Conduct an assessment of the sustainability of the removals of *Lagenorhynchus* dolphins in the Faroe Islands, Iceland, and Greenland.
- ii) Review available information in other areas and identify knowledge gaps and needs for further research.
- iii) Assess impacts from non-hunting related anthropogenic stresses (pollution, climate change, noise etc).
- iv) Recommend the suitable regularity of abundance surveys and assessments for each specific case (species/stock).

White-sided dolphins were assessed as a single stock, based on evidence from tracking studies, sighting surveys, and genetic analyses, which indicate that there is no population structure or hiatus in distribution across the Central North Atlantic. Biological samples collected from the Faroese drive hunts provided information on age structure, growth rates, and reproductive parameters. Data on removals were available from the Faroe Islands, with an average of 122 dolphins landed per year for the last 10 years (with one exception in 2021, when 1423 animals were landed). Catches in Greenland, as well as by-catches in Iceland and Norway, are likely quite low, although this needs to be explored in further detail. There is limited information on other human threats to this species, with Persistent Organic Pollutants likely being the most significant issue. A detailed population model incorporating these data, as well as abundance estimates for Faroese and Icelandic waters from 2007 and 2015/2016, was used to assess white-sided dolphins. Based on this model, there is a 70% probability that the population will be maintained if total removals are kept below 750 dolphins per year.

White-beaked dolphins, in contrast, show strong genetic evidence of population structure, as well as discontinuities in distribution across the eastern North Atlantic. In terms of removals, the catch levels in Greenland appear to be high, although there is considerable uncertainty surrounding underreporting and struck and lost rates, particularly in West Greenland. In Iceland, there are approximately 18 *Lagenorhynchus* by-catch events per year, although the species identification is not always certain. Similarly, by-catch events in Norway appear to be low, according to data from the reference fleet; however, the two *Lagenorhynchus* species are not always distinguished. Due to the uncertainties surrounding Greenlandic stock structure and removal rates, and the absence of detailed biological parameters, it was not possible to conduct a full assessment of white-beaked dolphins. A Potential Biological Removal (PBR) approach was used instead, based on abundance estimates from 2015-2016 for the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Iceland. The PBR indicates that removals in Greenland are likely to be unsustainable at current levels.

## **Recommendations from the Scientific Committee**

### ***Recommendations for Conservation and Management***

#### All Parties

- Considering the low levels of reported catch compared to the estimated population size, a new assessment of white-sided dolphins might be conducted within the standard 5-year period, integrating the 2024 abundance estimate, full catch reporting, and validated age structure information.

#### Multiple Parties

- Maintain total removals below 750 white-sided dolphins per year across Greenland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands.

Faroe Islands

- Validate the completeness of the Faroese white-sided dolphin catches, focusing on the apparent lack of juveniles in the catch (prioritised by SC/30).

Greenland

- Validate the Greenlandic removals with a special focus on minimising underreporting and estimating struck and lost rates, thus facilitating a full assessment of white-beaked dolphins as soon as possible (high priority).

**Recommendations for Research**All Parties

- Deploy satellite tags on both white-sided and white-beaked dolphins, preferably in areas other than the Faroe Islands, to obtain more movement and dispersion data.

Faroe Islands (concerning white-sided dolphins)

- Investigate if there is older (i.e., 1986–1992) existing biological material from the Faroe Islands that could be processed and analysed, and to continue collecting relevant samples to investigate reproduction parameters and age structure.
- Collect eye lenses to explore alternative age-determination methods.
- Collect information from stranded animals, including age, length, and sex data.
- Program satellite transmitters to collect higher resolution dive data at shallow depths to allow aerial survey availability correction factors to be estimated.

Greenland

- Determine the stock identity of white-beaked dolphins in West Greenland, using increased genetic sampling and tagging efforts in Greenland (prioritised by SC/30).
- Collect life history and age data from white-beaked dolphins in Greenland.

Iceland

- Make existing and newly collected biological data (age and reproductive information) from Iceland available for the next white-beaked dolphin assessment.

The SC also recommended the following Management Areas for:

- White-beaked dolphin: i) West Greenland and Western Atlantic (provisional; pending genetic confirmation); ii) East Greenland and Iceland; iii) Northern Norway and Svalbard; and iv) Southern Norway and North Sea.
- White-sided dolphin: Central North Atlantic (one contiguous management unit).

**Comments from Parties**

The Faroe Islands thanked the SC for its work on this matter and were pleased to note that the current Faroese removal levels of white-sided dolphins are deemed sustainable. Iceland also thanked the SC for the updates and expressed alarm that the catches of white-beaked dolphins in Greenland appear to be unsustainable, asking Greenland for comment on this. Greenland responded that the catches of the two *Lagenorhynchus* dolphin species are currently not in a quota system. However, the Ministry is drafting a new Executive Order that will include these species.

Greenland noted the recommendations of the SC and informed that, relevant to the recommendation on quantifying struck and lost rates, the Government of Greenland has recently sent a new draft Executive Order on protection and hunting of small cetaceans other than beluga and narwhal for a public hearing. The main aims are to improve the catch reporting, including struck and lost rates, and hunting methods.

### MCC Conclusion

The MCC **endorsed** all the recommendations of the SC, including the proposed Management Areas. Request R-3.9.6 is considered completed for white-sided dolphins, but remains pending for white-beaked dolphins and bottlenose dolphins.

There were no new requests proposed concerning dolphins.

## **3.4. NORTHERN BOTTLENOSE WHALE**

### **Active Requests to the Scientific Committee from the Council**

- **R-1.7.11 (renewed 2019, ongoing)** *To develop estimates of abundance and trends as soon as possible once the [NASS 2015] survey has been completed.*

### **Updates from the Scientific Committee**

This request has been completed for all species except the northern bottlenose whale. Norway had taken the lead on the analyses for this species, but have not progressed in recent years. The SC agreed that an internal review of bottlenose whales could be conducted at its next meeting, prior to which, SC members will provide relevant data. The SC discussed the usefulness of conducting assessments of species undergoing limited or no removals, such as bottlenose whales.

### **Recommendations from the Scientific Committee**

#### Greenland

- Validate the reported catches of this species, as there appears to be misreporting.

### **Comments from Parties**

Greenland concurred that the records of bottlenose whale catches are likely misreported, as this species is not traditionally hunted in Greenland.

Norway commented that the delay in analyses was due to a generational turnover in the research group responsible. Considering that the NASS 2024 survey will provide another abundance estimate for this species, it would perhaps be reasonable to postpone the analysis until these new data can be incorporated.

### MCC Conclusion

The MCC **endorsed** the recommendation to Greenland.

Request 1.7.11 remains ongoing. There were no new requests suggested pertaining to bottlenose whales.

## **4. RECOMMENDATION ON THE RESEARCH NEEDED FOR UPCOMING ASSESSMENTS**

### **4.1. HARBOUR PORPOISE**

#### **Active Requests to the Scientific Committee from the Council**

- **R-3.10.1 (renewed 2019, ongoing):** *To perform an assessment of harbour porpoise throughout its range, which might include distribution and abundance, stock identity, biological parameters, ecological interaction, pollutants, removals, and sustainability of removals.*

#### **Updates from the Scientific Committee**

The Working Group on Harbour Porpoise (HPWG) conducted an assessment of harbour porpoises in Norwegian waters in November 2022. The SC considers that an assessment of the Icelandic stock is of high priority, however, in light of the fact that an abundance estimate will likely not be available before

2026, an assessment should be conducted in that year. The remaining NAMMCO stocks could also be assessed in 2026. To that end, it is important that the recommendations put forward by the HPWG in 2022 (and endorsed by the MCC in 2023) are followed up on in a timely manner.

## Recommendations from the Scientific Committee

### Recommendations for Research

#### Iceland

- Collect data on biological parameters, to facilitate an assessment of the Icelandic stock (*high priority*).

### Comments from Parties

The Chair asked the Faroe Islands and Iceland to comment on their respective progress on the HPWG's recommendations. Iceland, which was tasked with generating back-calculated by-catch estimates for the upcoming assessment, commented that an earlier attempt at this had not fully succeeded, but more advances might be made in the immediate future. Iceland also noted that samples are being collected from by-caught animals to obtain biological parameters, in fulfilment of the SC's recommendation. The Faroe Islands were asked to support the creation of an App that would enable users of coastal areas to report observations, catch, and by-catch of harbour porpoises, as well as to initiate the collection of biological data on harbour porpoise. The Faroe Islands informed that the App is in the development phase, and could hopefully be launched later this year. However, while harbour porpoises are not protected in Faroese waters, their catches appear to be quite limited in recent years, rendering it difficult to collect biological samples.

### MCC Conclusion

The MCC **endorsed** the SC's recommendation to Iceland.

Request R-3.10.1 remains ongoing. There were no new requests proposed regarding harbour porpoises.

## 4.2. PILOT WHALE

### Active Requests to the Scientific Committee from the Council

- **R-3.8.6 (ongoing, 2011):** *To continue work to complete a full assessment of pilot whales in the North Atlantic and provide advice on the sustainability of catches, as soon as necessary further information becomes available, with particular emphasis on the Faroese area and East and West Greenland.*

### Updates from the Scientific Committee

The Working Group on Pilot Whales (PWWG) is scheduled to meet in 2025 to conduct an assessment of this species. This assessment will incorporate the latest abundance estimate resulting from NASS 2024. The HPWG had also put forward recommendations for research (forwarded to the Faroe Islands in 2023) that would provide sufficient data for an assessment by the PWWG. These include the analysis of teeth and reproductive samples, the collection and analysis of genetic samples, together with Iceland and Greenland, and the investigation of the relationship between pollutants and life history parameters.

### Comments from Parties

The Chair asked the Faroe Islands to comment on their progress on the HPWG's recommendations. The Faroe Islands informed that all the samples needed to provide background biological data have been collected and will be analysed in time for the planned assessment meeting. The Faroe Islands are cooperating with Greenland and Iceland on the collection of genetic samples, and the SC has requested

the newly established technical Working Group on Genetics to provide guidance on the best methods to analyse these data.

### MCC Conclusion

The MCC approved the plans for assessment. Request R-3.8.6 remains ongoing. No new requests were proposed on the topic of pilot whales.

## **5. UPDATE ON MEMBERS' RESPONSES TO PROPOSALS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT**

The list of proposals relevant to the MCC includes 6 to the Faroe Islands, concerning Pilot Whale, Dolphins, and Harbour Porpoise, 11 to Greenland, concerning Beluga, Narwhal, Dolphins, and Harbour Porpoise, 2 to Iceland, under Dolphins and Harbour Porpoise, and 10 to Norway concerning Harbour Porpoise. Updates were provided prior for all proposals, either prior to or during the meeting. There were no other comments from the Parties.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

## **7. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The Chair thanked the participants for their attendance and contributions. The participants commended the Chair and rapporteur for their work.

## **8. ADOPTION OF REPORT**

A draft of the report was provisionally adopted on 21 March 2024. This was later finalised by correspondence and adopted on 5 April 2024.

## APPENDIX 1: PARTICIPANT LIST

### MEMBER COUNTRIES

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## APPENDIX 2: JOINT LIST OF DOCUMENTS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

Reference	Title	Agenda item
NAMMCO/31/08	Scientific Committee Report	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/31/MC/01	Joint list of Documents for the Management Committees	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/31/MCJ/02	Draft Annotated Agenda Joint Meeting of the Management Committees (MCJ)	MCJ
NAMMCO/31/MCC/03	Draft Annotated Agenda Management Committee for Cetaceans (MCC)	MCC
NAMMCO/31/MCSW/04	Draft Annotated Agenda Management Committee for Seals and Walrus (MCSW)	MCSW
NAMMCO/31/MC/05	List of Proposals for Conservation and Management and Recommendations for Research generated by the MCs at their 2023 meeting, with Responses from the Parties	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/31/MC/06	List of Active Requests from the NAMMCO Council to the Scientific Committee, with Responses from the Scientific Committee	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/31/MC/07	Report of the WG on User Knowledge	MCJ
NAMMCO/31/MC/08	List of Participants	MCJ, MCC, MCSW

MC: Management Committee

MCJ: Joint Meeting of the Management Committees

MCC: Management Committee for Cetaceans

MCSW: Management Committee for Seals and Walruses



## **APPENDIX 3: AGENDA**

### **1. Chair's opening remarks**

### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

### **3. Conservation and Management Measures for Cetacean Stocks**

- 3.1 Narwhal
- 3.2 Beluga
- 3.3 White-beaked, White-sided, and Bottlenose Dolphins
- 3.4 Northern Bottlenose Whale

### **4. Recommendation on the research needed for upcoming assessments**

- 3.5 Harbour Porpoise
- 3.6 Pilot Whale

### **5. Update on members' responses to Proposals for Conservation and Management**

### **6. Any other business**