

# INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA

OCTOBER 2018

## Minutes of the 2018 Council Meeting



**ICES**  
**CIEM**

International Council for  
the Exploration of the Sea

Conseil International pour  
l'Exploration de la Mer

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**ICES 106<sup>th</sup> Statutory Meeting**  
**Copenhagen, Denmark**  
**Chair: Cornelius Hammer, ICES President**  
**17-18 October 2018**

## **1 Welcome and approval of the Agenda**

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Cornelius Hammer, ICES President welcomed new delegates, and a moment of remembrance was observed in memory of Georgs Kornilovs, former Latvian delegate who passed away in summer.

The agenda was adopted.

### **1.1 President's review**

The President reviewed the follow-up, in relation to actions decided at the 2017 Council meeting as described in CM 2018 Del-1.1. Council noted that all actions had been followed up, or would be addressed during the course of the meeting.

## **2 ICES Strategic Plan**

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Anne Christine Brusendorff, the General Secretary, presented the ICES Strategic Plan. The top-level component of the plan has been developed over the past year with feedback sought from Member Countries, as well as the Science Committee (SCICOM), and the Advisory Committee (ACOM). At the 2017 Council meeting, it was agreed to make a new strategic plan based on 3-components:

- a top-level plan aimed at communicating the ICES vision and mission externally,
- a second level of objectives and sub-objectives common to all pillars of the organization, aimed at progress reporting to Bureau and Council, and
- a third level that will link operational tasks to the upper level goals and objectives, for all parts of the organization, to ensure coordinated allocation of resources.

Fritz Köster, ICES 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President provided an overview of the process, including revisions made by the Bureau, based on comments received. The plan has been presented in meetings of ACOM and SCICOM, and accounts for the ICES science priorities stipulated in the Science plan.

ACOM, SCICOM, and the Secretariat are working with implementation plans, which are reflected in an overall ICES joint work plan, ensuring that all parts of the organization are coordinating resources in their efforts to achieve joint objectives and sub-objectives. ACOM will consider at its November meeting if additional input will be provided to the Science Plan.

**Action:** Council adopted the Strategic Plan, endorsing the top-level component, and agreed to the principle of working through the different levels of the plan including the four-year goals and objectives, and annual work plan.

### 3 Finance

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#### 3.1 Finance Committee Report

Piotr Margonski, Chair of Finance Committee presented the work of the Finance Committee as outlined in the report CM 2018 Del-3.1. Noting the considerations taken into account for the budget forecast. For the 2020 Forecast Budget an inflation regulation, a 1.5% increase of the national contributions is recommended. There are financial implications of a stable budget, as the value of national contributions have decreased due to inflation. National contributions were not increased in 2010, 2012– 2015, 2017, and 2018.

The Forecast budget takes a conservative approach with estimating income. The results of negotiations with clients including with the European Union, and on-going negotiations with other clients, as well as the projects in the pipeline are not included but once they are generating income, they will positively influence the budget predictions.

The President thanked the Chair and members of Finance Committee, as well as the Secretariat for their work preparing and reviewing all the budget documents.

During the discussion, the Netherlands stressed the need for long-term considerations for investments from equity, demonstrating the investments can be translated into the forecast budget. Netherlands requested that the information contained in the report of the Finance Committee be summarized with main messages condensed and highlighted when submitted to Council.

Clarification was requested related to potential moving costs for ICES headquarters, the costs of moving are not included in the forecast budget, as they will be paid by the Danish government (who have initiated the move).

Germany highlighted the need for a forecast budget including just 1 year, separate from long-term strategic deliberations to help improve the chances of Germany being able to vote “yes” for 1.5 % increase in national contributions.

Given the increasing complexity of financial administrative demands from clients, Council supported the proposal to strengthen the financial administration of the organization with an extra staff member. Canada noted concerns about using equity to fund an operational position. The General Secretary clarified that the aim is to have the cost of this position covered as part of core operating costs and not funded from equity in the long-term.

**Action:**

- Council requested Finance Committee to present their report with main messages summarised when submitted for consideration at the Council meeting.
- Council approved the final accounts 2017, including Audit Book;
- Council approved the proposed budget for 2019, noting that the national contributions have already been decided;
- Council deferred the vote on the 2020 national contributions, adjusted with the Danish inflation rate (1.5%) to an electronic vote in January 2019 allowing some countries additional time to secure a specific mandate to vote on the proposal; The Secretariat will work with member countries to develop tailored letters to help countries be prepared for an electronic vote in January 2019. Council delegates are asked to provide information on what would be specifically relevant to include to the letter by 1 November.

### 3.2 New Clients and changes to the MoUs and Administrative Agreements

The General Secretary provided meeting participants with an update on the status of negotiations with Member Countries wishing to also be recognized as “Advice requesters”, as well as related administrative procedures, and existing agreements as described in CM 2018 DEL-3.2. Initial discussions have begun with the United Kingdom to prepare for an agreement for ICES advice following the (pending) British exit from the European Union (Brexit).

### 3.3 Project participation

Head of Science Support, Wojciech Wawrzynski reviewed the status of ICES involvement in projects as described in CM 2018 Del-3.3. Council delegates noted the range of projects, as well as their strategic and financial importance to the organization.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Project involvement helps to position ICES in global issues, benefits the wider community, and builds capacity.
- The decision for ICES to participate in projects is evaluated for relevance to the strategic plan, potential for making results available for expert groups, and if Secretariat involvement will add benefit to the community overall.
- According to ICES project policy, Bureau has the mandate to approve project participation where ICES is requested to participate as partner. Coordination group provides input on available resources. An important consideration is the capacity of the Secretariat to support projects prior to committing.
- There is a need to strengthen the link between project work and benefits to the network. The mechanism for feeding the outcome of project work into the science network should be considered. A start could be to make a retrospective analysis of past projects and their outcomes and impact.
- Project involvement helps to ensure good links to the work done by the expert who are working in the projects and ensuring increased uptake into the assessment groups.
- An October workshop, [science2advice](#) completed a systematic review of science from projects and work done in expert groups into the advisory system.
- Greater consideration could be given to how the organization influences funding agencies, putting the right resources into the funding programmes to influence the funds for the network and expert groups.

Action: Council stressed the need for ensuring project work is relevant for the community, resource allocation/prioritization, and more widely the ability of the organization to influence the funding agencies/programming.

This will be further discussed at the February Bureau meeting.

## 4 Reports from the Council Strategic Initiative on Maritime Trans-Atlantic Cooperation (CSIMTC)

Fritz Köster, First Vice-President reported on the activities of CSIMTC. The group did not meet in 2018, however, there has been effort to expand the work portfolio with specific focus on involvement in H2020 strategic and research projects, including Secretariat facilitation, and considering how to influence programming.

Alain Vezina (CA), Co-Chair of CSIMTC, reported on the development of the Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI) recently established with funding from the Canadian govern-

ment. The OFI is working with international partners, and seeking to develop an international collaboration strategy.. Transatlantic cooperation has been most successful with focus on pooling activities, pooling of resources has been more difficult to agree on. Cooperation on data sharing is important for transatlantic cooperation. The Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Seabed Mapping working group has been successful in coordinating activities between Canada, the European Union, and the United States. High-level meetings between NOAA fisheries and DFO are planned for spring of 2019; ICES cooperation will be added to the agenda for that meeting.

The strategic importance of CSIMTC has been supported by the Bureau, however, an expanded trilateral (CA, EU, US) Co-Chairmanship would be important to reinvigorate the group with revised ToRs.

Portugal acknowledged that transatlantic joint-financing/resource pooling has been difficult, while it has been possible to agree on cooperation on specific activities within the AORA framework. It would be important to consider how to account for the Belém statement on Atlantic Research and Innovation Cooperation (EU, Brazil, and South Africa) in the context of the AORA Seabed mapping group. Integration of some of the northern countries from the western side of the Atlantic into the work would be useful.

Action: Council Delegates supported the continuation of the Council Strategic Initiative on Maritime Trans-Atlantic Cooperation (CSIMTC) under the Chairmanship of William (Bill) Karp (US), Nuno Lourenco (PT), and Alain Vezina (CA). The Terms of Reference will be revised by the Co-Chairs and circulated. All delegates interested in contributing to the work of the initiative are encouraged to contact the Chairs.

## **5 Council Working Group Code of Conduct (CWGCODE)**

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Tammo Bult, Chair of CWGCODE presented the outcome of the working group as outlined in CM 2018 Del-5. CWGCODE was established after discussions in Council on the inclusion of “industry & NGO” experts in ICES work. A good overview of such experts is missing and opinions in Council differed if and under what conditions such experts can or cannot participate as experts in ICES meetings. CWGCODE had the objective to come up with a practical proposal/solution that has the greatest chance of being acceptable by all Council members. The Code includes a standard of conduct, outlining expectations of behaviour for persons participating in ICES work, and detailing how conflicts of interest should be handled. This document was presented as a compromise position that should be piloted for three years, after which time the Code of Conduct will be reviewed.

As outlined in the Introduction to the Code of Conduct, Council delegates are responsible for making all experts they nominate aware of the Code of Conduct. Chairs of expert groups are expected to facilitate a discussion on declaration of interests with meeting participants prior to the commencement of work.

The Code of Conduct will be included to the Guidelines for Expert Groups. Feedback will be solicited at the WGCHAIRS meeting (January 2019), about how they can be best supported to put the Code of Conduct into practice.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Some member countries remain critical to allowing NGOs and industry experts to contribute to ICES work, but acknowledge that the risk of impartiality is not restricted to certain types of experts, and experience is needed to move forward.

- Chairs must be assured support from the Secretariat to address any potential conflicts of interest identified.
- The Canadian system struggles with the same issues, trying to balance transparency, inclusivity, and impartiality in the process. Canada provides specific training to the Chairs of meetings to help them. The Canadian delegate could provide specific contacts for learning more about the Canadian process and experience.

**Action:** The Council adopted the Code of Conduct for a three-year trial period. The Code of Conduct will be included to the Guidelines for ICES Expert Groups and dissemination to the community will be by presentation at the WGCHAIRS meeting in January 2019. Council will review the process annually.

## 6 Elections and Appointments

The terms of **ICES President**, **ICES 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President** and one **Vice-President** conclude at this meeting. To fill these positions Council elected the following delegates, each for a three-year term:

Fritz Köster, Denmark as ICES President

William (Bill) Karp, United States as ICES 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President

Gerd Kraus, Germany as ICES Vice-President

### 6.1 Appointments

The term of the Finance Committee Chair and most of the members has also concluded. Council delegates appointed a new Chair and members, each for a three-year term:

Ari Leskelä, Finland as Finance Committee Chair

Karin Victorin, Sweden as Member of Finance Committee

Markus Vetemaa, Estonia as Member of Finance Committee

Pablo Abaunza, Spain as Member of Finance Committee

## 7 Report from the SCICOM Chair

### 7.1.1 Annual Progress Report

The Chair of SCICOM, Simon Jennings, reported on the scope, scale, and impact of ICES science, the work of SCICOM and plans for future science delivery following identification of science priorities and proposed flagship science activities as detailed in CM 2018 Del 7.1 and Del 7.1.1.

The new Science Plan “Marine ecosystem and sustainability science for the 2020s and beyond” describes ICES scientific priorities and objectives and a pathway to achieve them. The purpose of the Plan is to generate ecosystem and sustainability science with a high and beneficial impact on society, fulfilling the ICES mission. The Science Plan was developed through an inclusive and consultative process. The intended audience for the science plan is the marine science community, in ICES countries and beyond.

A parallel aim is for the plan to resonate with managers, industry, funding agencies, government, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations who are committed to advancing marine conservation and management and furthering understanding of the sea.



Remaining timelines for the Science Plan:

- Presentation to ICES Council on 17–18 Oct 2018
- Text of science plan finalised by 2 Nov 2018
- Implementation plan finalised on SCICOM forum by 30 Nov 2018
- Science plan in place from 1 Jan 2019
- Implementation by expert groups beginning 26-28 Mar 2019

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- There are benefits to releasing the ICES strategic plan and the Science plan simultaneously.
- The expanding scope of science is important, however supporting the advisory system and traditional stock assessment should remain a strong priority.
- The aim of the Science Plan is to enhance core business. It is critical to feed science through to advice. The broader scientific scope adds to the capacity for rigorous stock assessment, etc. The greater knowledge there is about the systems, methods, and uncertainty, the more informed the analyses of the challenges.
- Working cultures in assessment working groups have a strong influence on the uptake of new science in to the assessments.
- The science themes of the ecosystem approach could be more prominently referenced in the Science Plan.
- The inclusion of stakeholders in the production of science and better understanding of stakeholder needs is an emerging science theme in Canada.

Action: Council supported the Science Plan, with a suggestion to review the text to ensure the ecosystem approach to fisheries was sufficiently prominent.

The General Secretary and the SCICOM Chair will coordinate to ensure the ICES Strategic Plan and Science Plan are released at the same time.

## **7.2 Arctic**

The General Secretary reported on the latest developments of ICES work related to the Arctic, including ICES participation in meetings under the Arctic Council, and the Scientific Experts on Fish Stocks in the Central Arctic Ocean. Council delegates discussed how to develop ICES role, including increasing the potential for scientists from beyond the ICES member countries taking part in the work of ICES.

Action: Council tasked Bureau, with support from the Coordination group, to make a relevant proposal for an ICES role in the Meeting of Scientific Experts on Fish Stocks in the Central Arctic Ocean (FISCAO) process once the ToRs for the FISCAO meeting are available. The aim will be to secure inter-sessional support from Council for a specific action to support the FISCAO process.

## **7.3 2018 and forthcoming Annual Science Conferences**

The German Delegates were thanked for hosting the very successful 2018 Annual Science Conference (ASC) in Hamburg. The 2019 ASC will be hosted by Sweden, and the 2021 ASC by United Kingdom. The member country that had been working on a proposal for hosting the ASC in 2020 had to withdraw their interest. Belgium will investigate the possibility to host in 2020, but will also consider 2022.

Action: Belgium was requested to provide an indication by the end of 2018, if they can confirm their possibility to host the ASC in 2020.

## 8 ICES Advisory Services

### 8.1 Report from the ACOM Chair

#### 8.1.1 Annual Progress Report

Eskild Kirkegaard, (outgoing) Chair of the Advisory Committee, reported on the activities of ACOM, with a specific focus on activities carried out to further the implementation of the ICES Strategic Plan as well as issues for which support is required to ensure continued progress as reported in CM 2018 Del-8.1.1.

The advisory plan for 2018 resulted in advice on fishing opportunities for 188 stocks, release of 2 Ecosystem and 1 Fisheries Overviews, responses to 3 recurring requests for advice on ecosystem impacts of fishing activities, 25 special requests, and 9 technical services.

The availability of experts with the required skills is an increasing limiting factor for ICES advisory services, specifically, but not only for environmental advice, and if not solved will be a major risk to ICES advisory services in the medium term.

ACOM is working on developing a procedure to better distribute expert participation among the Advice Drafting groups, to ensure sufficient capacity for all processes and to make best use of available funding.

The second workshop to scope the ICES framework for ecosystem advice took place in May 2018 to develop an ICES framework for ecosystem advice. The Workshop made good progress in defining the principles for a framework and recommended the next step to be a Dialogue Meeting in 2019/2020. The recommendation was supported by ACOM.

During the initial discussion, the following points were noted:

- Better annual planning was emphasised for all levels/actors.
- Need to work with clients to help avoid requests with short deadlines.
- Consider ways to anticipate or influence policy needs so the science is available.
- The interest of experts and financing to support participation is not always matched.

Action: Council supported the ACOM proposed ICES dialogue meeting in 2019/2020 on a Framework for ecosystem advice. Given the work planned within the CSI (see section 8.2), on mapping the objectives of the member countries, for which they will be willing/able to allocate resources, 2020 seems to be the most appropriate time. A host will be needed. Brussels could be a good venue, as it would facilitate the participation of stakeholders/clients.

### 8.2 Capacity and workload issues in the advisory services

Meeting participants reviewed and discussed strategies for reduction of workload, and capacity issues in the advisory system.

Fritz Köster provided an overview of some of the recent initiatives developed to help address the issues as well as some clarifications about the role of different funding streams from the European Union being of relevance for ICES science and the advisory system.

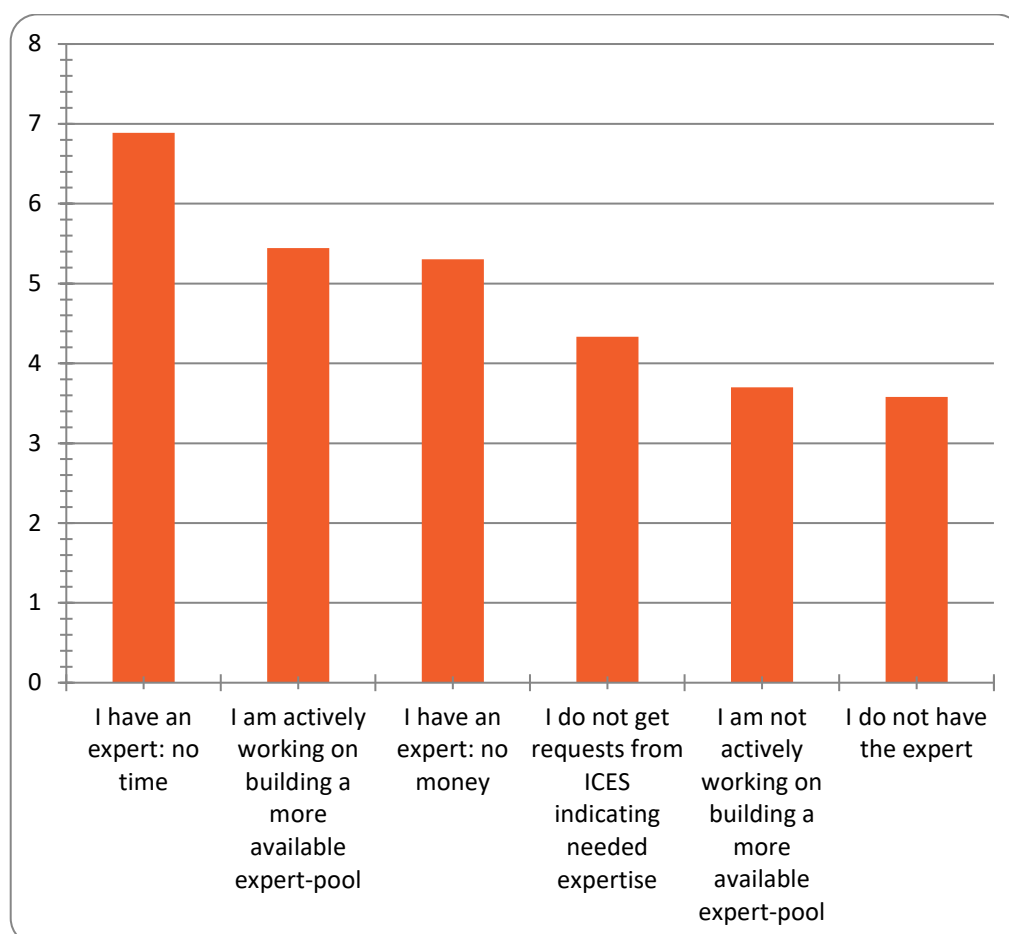
Several developments have been initiated to address these issues:

- ACOM expertise and coverage of fisheries and non-fisheries advice – job descriptions have been developed for national representatives
- ACOM/SCICOM structural changes (common steering group(s), allocation/re-allocation of expert groups),
- ACOM working procedures (e.g. ADGs populating/financing, formal benchmark process)
- Quality assurance (e.g. workshops with focus on bias in assessments, management strategy evaluation, data limited stocks, frameworks for ecosystem advice)
- Dialogue meeting on the framework for ecosystem advice in 2019/2020

### ICES Expert – discussion in Council

Tammo Bult (NL) led a discussion to help identify the issues and potential solutions for improving the expert resources available for ICES work. Council delegates responded (via mmeet.net) to questions about how expert availability can be improved.

Some of the feedback is presented in the figures below:



**Figure 1. Reasons provided by ICES delegates for not nominating experts to ICES processes.**

Council Delegates also provided ideas about how to make best use of the existing pool of experts. They were then able to assign “like” or “dislike” to each of the submitted ideas/ statements. The list of ideas and the number of likes and dislikes is provided in Table. 1.

**Table. 1. ICES Delegates ideas about how the Optimal use of the currently available expert pool**

| <b>Ideas about what needs be done to better utilise existing experts to ICES</b> |  | <b>Likes</b> | <b>Dislikes</b> |
|--|--|--------------|-----------------|
| 1  | Better planning at the beginning of the year   | 15           | 3               |
| 2  | Make the request as specific as possible in terms of expertise needed and time to invest   | 14           | 2               |
| 3  | Announcing and explaining need   | 11           | 5               |
| 4  | Reduce number of expert groups which have to be staffed (would probably come with a reduction of tasks in the short term, until the expert pool is extended) | 11           | 3               |
| 5  | Consolidate working groups with subject overlap (minimize expert groups with elements of redundancy in their terms of reference).                            | 11           | 1               |
| 6  | Give evident/clear credit to contributions   | 10           | 1               |
| 7  | Better financing of institutes   | 9            | 6               |
| 8  | Annual list of potential expert needs to facilitate planning   | 9            | 1               |
| 9  | Physical presence is not always needed. Use collaborative working tools  | 9            | 2               |
| 10   | Producing of multi annual advises to reduce workload of existing experts   | 8            | 1               |
| 11   | More e-meetings  | 8            | 2               |
| 12   | Clear Terms of reference, time requirement and clarification on funding and other supports   | 7            | 3               |
| 13   | Have a deadline for special requests and coordinate to reduce number of meetings   | 7            | 1               |
| 14   | Improve communication of the needs with delegates  | 7            | 1               |
| 15   | Give them credit for the work done   | 7            | 3               |
| 16   | Time planning and time management; have an overlook of the existing expert network   | 6            | 2               |
| 17   | Prioritize the participation of experts  | 6            | 1               |
| 18   | Reduce travel, more homework   | 6            | 3               |
| 19   | Efficient processes  | 5            | 3               |

|    |  |   |   |
|----|--|---|---|
| 20 | Publish expertise requirements annually to encourage "bottom up" participation of experts rather than rely on national communication downwards | 5 | 3 |
| 21 | Raise profile of ICES work which increasingly conflicts with commercial contracts  | 5 | 4 |
| 22 | Can some special requests be answered without full advice process?   | 5 | 6 |
| 23 | Additional finances needed to hire additional scientists/experts in the institute, and to cover their working costs in ICES                    | 4 | 3 |
| 24 | We are already utilizing many of our experts in ICES   | 4 | 3 |
| 25 | Set a limit or early deadline for special requests   | 4 | 2 |
| 26 | More closely cooperate with fishery manager  | 4 | 3 |
| 27 | Training in MSE  | 2 | 8 |
| 28 | Indicate where experts are missing   | 2 | 4 |
| 29 | Explain better work implications of commitment   | 0 | 3 |

A "world café" approach was used to solicit Council delegates' ideas on how to make experts available for ICES work (3 groups, 3 rounds, 10 minutes per round, Chairs of each of the topic groups reported in plenary). The groups rotated discussing: 1) What can YOU (personally as an ICES delegate) do? 2) Better use of existing experts 3) Building new experts.

Reporting from the world café breakout groups:

- 1) Potential solutions as delegates – Rapporteur Mark Dickey-Collas
  - Highlight participation at national level through an (annual?) ICES national workshop convened by the delegates, aiming to engage experts beyond government institutes.
  - Use the opportunity provided by the Annual Science Conference to organize a meeting of national experts.
  - Incentivise participation for experts, especially from academia incl. enhanced networking
  - Critical review of experts who no longer contribute.
- 2) Better use of existing experts – Rapporteur Gerd Kraus
  - Create a job description for expert group members
  - Consider incentives for participation in expert groups
  - Authorship for work in advisory groups.
  - Pay experts to attend especially for non-fisheries advice.
  - Establish a process for Chairs to do a review of the group after each meeting to improve the efficiency of each group.
  - Merge ACOM and SCICOM – one pool of experts

- Process management – how to say “no” to requests? Are we over extending ourselves?

### 3) Building new experts – Rapporteur Fritz Köster

- Hiring experts from e.g. Australia/New Zealand or hiring consulting companies not considered a viable alternative to teaching, education, and training in ICES and member countries; is at best a short-term fix (hiring experts) and at worst creates more work due to e.g. quality control (consulting companies).
- Training is important, and should be intensified through relevant measures, e.g. a fellowship programme for exchange, travel and subsistence, which allows PhD and Post-docs to gain experience in the ICES network. This strategy is especially promising in areas of core expertise in ICES, where learning on the job and mentoring already functions well. Such an effort should also include advising and helping in career planning and development.
- A contribution to education on MSc or advanced BSc could be a useful, especially in areas outside of ICES core expertise, i.e. areas with shortage of expertise or insufficient coverage by expert groups. This should include a dialogue with universities on which areas to focus and on requirements, also considering nationally identified needs. It should include as well offer help in developing relevant courses (in parts or total) or even curricula. This could also improve the branding of ICES in the academic environment and recruit into relevant PhD and Post-doc tracks.
- Viewed as unrealistic to shape ICES into a specialized university, similar to the concept of the World Maritime University in Malmö, Sweden.

Council endorsed the initiatives, decisions, and developments that have been taken by ACOM/SCICOM to help alleviate some of the workload issues and create efficiencies in the system. To further support these initiatives it was proposed to create a Council Strategic Initiative on resources to support member countries contributions to ICES advisory work, science and education/training.

Action: Establish a Council Strategic Initiative, chaired by Fritz W Köster: Resources to support member countries contributions to ICES advice and science, as well as education/training.

1. Mapping the science and advice priorities, Tammo Bult and Per Sandberg
2. Resourcing of the advisory process, Gerd Kraus and Carl O'Brien
3. Strengthen science and education/training, Bill Karp, Gerd Kraus, and Pierre Petitgas

Council agreed to conclude the work of the Council Strategic initiative on the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Ecosystem Approach (CSIMSFDEA), with reference to the above ToRs.

While the co-chairs will further elaborate the ToRs, Council delegates are invited to:

- Nominate members for each of the sub-ToRs, noting that these can also be found outside Council, with reference to the issues discussed (i.e. national DCF correspondents)

## 9 Data and Information Services

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The Head of Data and Information, Neil Holdsworth provided a 2018 status report on the activities and deliverables by Data and Information Group (DIG; SCICOM operational group) and the Data and Information Centre as outlined in CM 2018 Del-9. Including progress on the pilot project on The Transparent Assessment Framework, and improvements to DATRAS and RDBES (CM 2018 Del-9.1).

DIG has continued close collaboration with ICES Data Centre, both in terms of identifying strategic areas most likely to impact ICES work, and in concrete steps to apply governance principles and evaluations to different development projects to ensure considerations of all relevant data management principles are considered.

During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Given the high-costs of data collection a review of data adequacy within the ICES system would be helpful.
- Data sharing through ICES is beneficial for transatlantic cooperation.
- The roles and responsibilities for data governance are distributed through the organization. Some member countries supported the idea of a Data Committee with national representation.
- A new structure should seek to strike the appropriate balance between an operational approach and national representation, aiming to avoid duplicative administrative layers.
- The current set-up is very agile and reflects that Data services are paid for 50% by ICES member countries, 35% by clients and 15% projects.
- Work has been initiated to ensure compatibility between DoIs assigned to datasets at national level with the internationally collated datasets.
- Data Technology and infrastructure is constantly evolving. The Data Centre and DIG have developed a risk and opportunities register as a framework for preparing and planning.

Action: Bureau will consider the need for strengthened data governance, including the potential for national representation and will report to Council at the 2019 meeting.

## 10 Secretariat

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The General Secretary, Anne Christine Brusendorff provided a 2018 status report on the activities and deliverables by the Secretariat as reported in CM 2018 Del-10. During 2018, the Secretariat has prepared updated personal privacy statements in response to the European Data Protection Regulation and other international initiatives, piloted a new direct entry method for delegates to nominate expert to ICES work, run an active external communications programme, and supported the application for ICES UN observer status (sponsored by Norway).

Action: Council endorsed the updated data privacy policy/statements. Council also agreed the nominations of national experts for ICES work will be entered via the Resource Coordination Tool within the Delegates Dashboard as soon as it goes live in November/December 2018.

## **11 Any other Business**

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### **11.1 Rules of Procedure**

Council delegates were invited to approve the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure;

- following the establishment of full-time positions for the SCICOM and ACOM chairs, and their recruitment procedures;
- following requests to show the non-profit status of ICES
- editorial updates

Council members supported most of the changes. One member country took issue with the proposed text related to the new rule 18 iv and the use of the word “charitable” as being inappropriate in the ICES context.

Action: Council accepted the proposed changes to the Rules of Procedure, on the condition that Bureau review the language of the new Rule 18. iv.

### **11.2 Request from Russia on the benchmark of cod and haddock**

Oleg Bulatov, Russian delegate presented a request to move-up the benchmark of cod and haddock currently planned for 2020, to take place as soon as possible in 2019.

ACOM responded that moving the benchmark process depends on expert availability. If the data and resources are available, the work could be done in 2019. Russia and Norway would need to allocate the resources.

Action: The ACOM Chair and Head of Advisory Support will enquire if the experts are available to conduct the work in 2019.

### **11.3 Belgium national event**

Serge Scory, Belgian delegate provided an update on a Belgian national workshop planned for November, discussing “How to increase the engagement of Belgians in ICES work?” They will present the work of ICES. Around 40 participants are expected.

### **11.4 Date of the next meeting**

The next statutory meeting will take place 9–10 October 2019.



## Participants List

| Member Name                | Member Country/role   |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cornelius Hammer           | President             |
| Hans Polet                 | Belgium               |
| Serge Scory                | Belgium               |
| Alain Vezina               | Canada                |
| Fritz W. Köster            | Denmark               |
| Markus Vetemaa             | Estonia               |
| Katarina Viik              | Estonia               |
| Paula Kankaanpää           | Finland               |
| Ari Leskelä                | Finland               |
| Pierre Petitgas            | France                |
| Christopher Zimmermann     | Germany               |
| Gerd Kraus                 | Germany               |
| Olafur S. Astthorsson      | Iceland               |
| Sigurdur Gudjonsson        | Iceland               |
| Jeffrey Fisher             | Ireland               |
| Michael Gillooly           | Ireland               |
| Didzis Ustups              | Latvia                |
| Jūrandā Savukynienė        | Lithuania             |
| Joost Backx                | Netherlands           |
| Tammo Bult                 | Netherlands           |
| Per Sandberg               | Norway                |
| Piotr Margonski            | Poland                |
| Manuela Azevedo            | Portugal              |
| Nuno Lourenço              | Portugal              |
| Oleg Bulatov               | Russia                |
| Pablo Abaunza              | Spain                 |
| Karin Victorin             | Sweden                |
| Jacob Hagberg              | Sweden                |
| Matthew J. Gubbins         | United Kingdom        |
| Carl O'Brien               | United Kingdom        |
| William Karp               | United States         |
| Jonathan A. Hare           | United States         |
| Eskild Kirkegaard          | ACOM Chair (outgoing) |
| Mark Dickey-Collas         | ACOM Chair (incoming) |
| Simon Jennings             | SCICOM Chair          |
| Anne Christine Brusendorff | ICES Secretariat      |
| Lotte Worsøe Clausen       | ICES Secretariat      |
| Neil Holdsworth            | ICES Secretariat      |
| Wojciech Wawrzynski        | ICES Secretariat      |
| Inigo Martinez             | ICES Secretariat      |
| Ellen Johannesen           | ICES Secretariat      |

