

Appointment of Advisory Committee Chair

The meeting is invited to appoint the Advisory Committee (ACOM) Chair based on the nomination by ACOM.

The three-year term of the current ACOM Chair, Jean Jacques Maguire, will be completed in December 2013. In order to fill this position ACOM invited nominations for a new chair. The nominations were presented and considered during the Annual Science Conference in Reykjavik. Four candidates were nominated, of which three, when asked did not want to stand for election.

ACOM agreed, in open plenary at its 27 September meeting, to recommend for Council approval, Eskild Kirkegaard as ACOM Chair (2014–2016).

Eskild Kirkegaard's CV and motivation letter (originally submitted to ACOM) are attached. Eskild Kirkegaard will attend the second day of the Council meeting, to present himself.

According to the Rules of Procedure:

Rule 30,

iii) The Chair and Vice-Chair(s) of the Advisory Committee shall be nominated by the Advisory Committee and appointed by the Council. The Chair and Vice Chair(s) shall hold office for a term of three years, with the possibility of a one year extension, subject to approval by the Council. They shall assume office on the first day of January next following their election. They shall not be eligible for re-election for the immediately succeeding term.

iv) The Chair and the Vice-Chair(s) of the Science Committee and of the Advisory Committee shall not serve as a representative of a Contracting Party. At the time they assume the office of Chair or Vice-Chair, the Contracting Party should appoint another representative to the committee.

Curriculum vitae

Name: Eskild Kirkegaard
Nationality: Danish
Date of birth: 30. January, 1952
Mobil +22 44 81 44
e-mail ek@aqua.dtu.dk

Present position:

Vice-director. National Institute of Aquatic Resources (DTU Aqua), Technical University of Denmark, Jægersborg Allé 1, 2920 Charlottenlund, Denmark.

Degree:

Cand. scient. (~ M. Sc.) in Marine Biology and Chemistry, University of Copenhagen, 1981.

Key qualifications:

Scientific advice on fisheries management and environmental impact of fisheries. Fish stock assessment. Fisheries management. Management and administration. Research planning and evaluation.

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Positions

- Fisheries scientist, Danish Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research (DIFMAR), 1981-1988
- Deputy Head of Department, Danish Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research (DIFMAR), 1988-1991
- Head of Department, Danish Institute for Fisheries and Marine Research (DIFMAR), 1992-1994
- Research Director, Danish Institute for Fisheries Research (DIFRES), 1995-2001
- Principal Administrator, DG-FISH, European Commission, 2001-2005
- Principal adviser, Danish Institute for Fisheries Research (DIFRES) (2006-2007)
- Vice director, National Institute of Aquatic Resources (DTU Aqua) (2007 -)

Part time jobs

Teaching:

- Lecturer in fisheries biology, University of Copenhagen. 1985 - 1993:
- FAO training courses on fish stock assessment and fisheries management: 1988 - 1999

Consultant:

- MSC certification of fisheries, expert on sustainable fisheries and fisheries management. Det Norske Veritas, Danmark A/S. 2009 - present

Memberships of scientific groups:

- ICES:
 - Advisory Committee on Fishery Management (ACFM) 1988 – 1999
 - Consultative Committee, 1993 – 1996
 - Pelagic Committee, 1990 – 1997
 - Resource Management Committee, 1997 - 2001
 - Various expert groups
- EU:
 - Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), 2008 – present.
 - Various expert groups and consultations.
- FAO:
 - Technical Consultation on the precautionary Approach to Capture Fisheries. 1995
- IUCN:
 - Fisheries Working Group of the European Sustainable Use Specialist Group, 1998 - 2001

Chairmanship of scientific groups:

- ICES:
 - Advisory Committee on Fishery Management, 1993 - 1996.
 - Mackerel Assessment Working Group, 1990-1991.
 - Planning Group for Acoustic Surveys in Sub-area IV and Division IIIa, 1988 - 1991.
- EU:
 - STECF EWG-13-05. Review of DC-MAP, Part 2. 2013
 - STECF EWG-13-02. Review of DC-MAP, Part 1. 2013
 - STECF SGMED-08-01. 2008..

Member of research evaluation panels:

- Review ICES Advisory Services. 2012
- Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS). 1999
- Monitoring and stock assessment in Norway. 1996
- Pelagic research at Institute of Marine Research, Lysekil, Sweden. 1993.

Awards

Swedish Seafood Award Kungsfenan in the category sustainable fishery. 2006

Eskild Kirkegaard
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25th September 2013

Members of ACOM,

My motivation to stand as candidate for the position as Chair of ACOM is a wish to be active involved in the development of ICES advisory services combined with a confidence in ICES being the main deliver of scientific advice on human activities affecting and affected by marine ecosystems. My membership of the review panel, which in 2012 reviewed ICES advisory services, gave me a good insight to the challenges ACOM is facing but also a clear impression that ACOM can meet these challenges.

I believe I have the experience and expertise required to serve as Chair of ACOM. I have for more than 30 years been active involved in advisory work, mainly related to fisheries management and impact of fisheries on the environment. I have been member of a number of ICES and STECF expert groups and chaired several of them. I was active in ACFM from 1988 to 1999 and chaired the committee from 1993 to 1996. Currently I am member of STECF. I have also experiences as receiver and user of scientific advice through my job as Principal Administrator in DG-FISH from 2001 to 2005.

The job as ACOM chair is demanding and it will not be compatible with my current job as vice-director at DTU Aqua. I will therefore step down from my vice-director position if elected as ACOM chair.

ICES Advice Plan sets the basis for ACOM's work and a key task for the ACOM Chair will be to implement the plan in cooperation with the Committee, the Vice-chairs and the secretariat.

I will in the following give a few examples of areas which I believe will be important for ACOM to address in the coming years.

One of the main challenges for ACOM will be to find the balance between delivering the recurrent advice, addressing special requests and developing integrated ecosystem assessments and advice. The demand for advice and thereby the workload will likely continue to increase. A similar increase in human resources to do the job is, however, unlikely, and ACOM will need to address this mismatch between workload and available resources.

Credibility is central for ICES advice and it is important that ACOM maintains the present standard and the advice continues to be considered credible by the users. Credibility is linked to quality and the advice must be science based taking into account all available and relevant information. Research results are, however, often not available in a form that allows them to be used directly in the advisory process. It is important that ICES continues to facilitate the use of research result in advice and I believe that ACOM in close cooperation with SICOM has a role to play on this.

It is equally important that the network of experts available to ACOM covers the scientific expertise needed to develop and present the advice. To address the expected addition of new requests for advice on management systems and integrated assessments it will be necessary for ICES to widen its advisory scope and to attract experts not traditionally involved in ICES work. To achieve this ICES advisory process must provide sufficient incentives for individual scientists to participate in the advisory work. I do not have a simple solution to this but I am convinced that ACOM needs to address it.

Credibility of the advice is also relying on ICES having access to fisheries and environmental data in a form and quality required to produce the advice. Most of the data is generated outside ICES and it is therefore important that ACOM, as one of the main end users, provides input to the designing of the data collection systems within ICES member countries.

In addition to being credible the advice must be also be relevant. To ensure the relevance the advice should, while based on science, be developed in a dialogue between ICES and the recipients of the advice. The dialogue should cover all phases of the process from formulation of the requests to the presentation of the advice and conducted such that the expert groups developing the basis for the advice are involved.

The examples of areas of importance for ACOM given above do not cover all the challenges and opportunities ACOM has and you are most welcome to contact me if you have questions or wish to discuss issues which I have not addressed.

Sincerely,

Eskild