



## Press Release

### NAFO HOLDS 47<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING IN HALIFAX AND MAKES ANNUAL TAC DECISIONS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HALIFAX, CANADA, 19 September 2025**-The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) held its 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Halifax, Canada. NAFO's Contracting Parties continued to collaborate to advance the Organization's management of the fisheries in the Northwest Atlantic, noting the significance of holding the meeting during the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the adoption of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement. The NAFO delegates were welcomed to Halifax at the start of the meeting, 15 September, by His Honour The Honourable Mike Savage, ONS, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, and the Chair of the Commission, Deirdre Warner-Kramer.

"This year marks 30 years since the adoption of the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, which set the modern foundation for the work of regional fisheries management organizations. NAFO has done better than many to adapt its work to meet these modern standards, starting with our amended Convention, which enshrined transparency and the precautionary and ecosystems approaches to fisheries management at the center of our work," remarked NAFO President, Deirdre Warner-Kramer.

This meeting marked the first meeting where NAFO applied its new Precautionary Approach Framework (PAF) to fisheries management, which was adopted last year after a comprehensive review. The new PAF ensures NAFO continues to lead with sustainability-focused fisheries management backed by strong science.

NAFO agreed to begin its third performance review of the Organization, which will aim to address ongoing concerns with workload challenges while ensuring NAFO's work still remains grounded in strong science. The last performance review of NAFO took place in 2018, with all recommendations having since been addressed.

Additionally, NAFO elected Joost Paardekooper (European Union) as the new NAFO President and Chair of the Commission for a two-year term, and Ray Walsh (Canada) as the vice-Chair of the Commission for a two-year term. NAFO also renewed Brynhildur Benediktsdóttir, as the Executive Secretary, for a second four-year term.

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will take place 21-25 September 2026, in Lithuania.

The total allowable catches and quotas for 2026 can be found [here](#). Meeting reports for the NAFO Commission and the Scientific Council will be made available on the NAFO website at a later date.

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