



3 May 2025

Minutes

NMTT Board Meeting I 2025 (Zoom)

Monday 26 February 2025

Present: The NMTT Chair Dorothy Dankel, Vice-chair Carl-Christian Schmidt, Staffan Waldo, Jens Møller, Hildur Hauksdóttir, Johan Williams, Jesper Heldbo. Not present Marita Rasmussen. From the NMTT Secretariat Lars Clink and Sonja Feldthaus participated.

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everybody.

2. Adaption of the agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

3. Approval of Minutes from 14 October 2024

The minutes of NMTT Board meeting IV was approved.

4. Table round

Vice-chair, Carl-Christian, informed that the Government of Denmark has postponed the already introduced “green” levy on fuel for fishing vessel for a five-year period whilst at the same time maintaining it for the agricultural and transport sectors. Jens Møller informed that Gemba continues its cooperation with the pelagic sector on how to supply vessels in ports with electricity with a view to reducing carbon footprints. Jens will participate in the NASF meeting in Bergen in March, a SEG meetings in Barcelona in May and another meeting in September in Ilulissat. Jesper informed that the Denmark from the EU EHFAF Fund has received € 150 mill. for the next programming period to be allocated to projects aiming at energy reduction in the fishing sector. Hildur informed that a new leftwing Government is now in office in Iceland, and changes in policy initiatives might be expected. The set up for the planned climate conference might also change. The fishing industry is closely following the debate on the EU Corporate Sustainability Report Directive (CRSD). Iceland is once again exploring accession to the EU. Staffan Waldo mentioned the Baltic Sea herring continues to be a focal point and that trawl free zones have been introduced or changed in Swedish waters and should be in place for three years. Food prices in SE have increased considerably and simultaneously the demand

for fish products has decreased by 35 pct. Johan Williams reported of new export records for Norwegian fish products and similar trends as in Sweden with respect to price and demand. Currently no debate on mackerel with the EU. Johan has finalized an article on mackerel. The Chair noted that NO in a debate in the EP has been accused for not playing fair in the mackerel coastal state negotiations. NO will cooperate with the EU on Ocean alignment. Shortly, the Chair will have a paper on models used for stock assessment published.

5. Plans for policy brief in 2025 including dates for 2025 Board Meetings

The Chair would like to have at least one policy brief in 2025.

The Chair suggested to have mackerel as a possible issue or perhaps the Nordic pelagic stocks as such. Johan Williams is writing an article on mackerel which demonstrates that there is no motivation to reach an agreement on management (no winners)

The Chair will present a proposal for policy brief at the next NMTT Board meeting in May.

Board Meetings in 2025:

NMTT Board Meeting II, 12 May 2025, 14:00 CET at Gemba Headquarters, Hørsholm; also, possible to attend via zoom. Prior to the Board Meeting, NMTT will discuss the draft strategy paper.

NMTT Board meeting III, 1 September 2025 14:00 CET, zoom

NMTT Board meeting IV, 1 December 2025, 14:00 CET, zoom

6. Information about the third workshop of the Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Helsingborg 16 January 2025

The Vice-chair, Carl- Christian, informed about the Forum and firstly underlined that the venue for the workshop was perfectly located when arriving by public transport and in addition, facility and service was of high quality. The Vice-chair thanked everybody for helping with the preparation and noted that around 55 persons participated either being present or via zoom. However, a number people had signed up, but never turned up. The presentations were followed by interesting and fruitful discussions and positive feed backs. All presentations can be found at the NMTT homepage and the report is almost finalized and ready for publication.

7. Status for the planning of fourth Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture

An application for a fourth workshop has already been submitted to the Nordic Council of Ministers. The response from NCM is expected in early March. The fourth Forum will focus on energy efficiency in the fishery sector and will be a joint Fisheries Iceland and NMTT workshop. Hildur and Carl-Christian are responsible for the overall planning. The Forum will

most likely take place in Iceland in late autumn of 2025 or beginning of 2026.

8. Status for the strategy paper and ways forward for the NMTT

Jens Møller presented the draft paper he had prepared following the discussion on 22 November 2024. Jens underlined that this is a draft and welcomed any comments which can serve as basis for generating new ideas and ways forward. Lars reminded that changes and new initiatives must be in line with the provisions laid down in the statute. Comments are welcome and should be sent to Jens.

It was agreed to continue the discussion of the strategy/vision paper. A follow up meeting is scheduled for 12 May 2025 prior to the NMTT Board Meeting and will also take place at premises of Gemba in Hørsholm. For Board Members, NMTT will pay for travel costs including cost for accommodation for one night.

9. Financial status.

The budget was adopted as presented.

10. Any other business

No issues were raised.