



## NMTT Board

Board meeting Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### Minutes

Present: The NMTT chair Carl-Christian Schmidt, Bryndís Björnsdóttir, Jesper Heldbo, Odma Johannesen and Lars Clink, NMTT Secretariat. Staffan Waldo and Ásmundur Guðjónsson were not able to attend. Dorothy Dankel and Johan Williams were not present.

#### **1. Welcome and Minutes of the Board meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

The chair welcomed to the meeting and noted that this meeting was according to the NMTT statutes. He noted that there were no comments to the Minutes of the last Board meeting 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

#### **2. Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture**

The chair mentioned that within 2½ month this forum will be held in Helsingør, Denmark. The first invitation was forwarded a fortnight ago and already 11 have registered to participate. Next week a reminder will be forwarded. The reminder will include more information on speakers and the topics they will present. Furthermore a deadline (1 November) will be included. In addition to those involved we expect at least 75 will attend.

The Nordic Council of Ministers considers to reserve half a million Danish kroner of their budget the next 4 years to these kind of conferences and this work will be managed by a coordinator. The NMTT must have in mind that the next 3 years the NMTT is able to provide competence and will be able to coordinate projects involving the Nordic countries. In this respect we must have in mind that the governance structure behind climate changes is complicated and must be dealt with. Some cooperation with the UK may be possible. This could include cooperation on the climate changes and the loss of fishing rights. Jesper supplemented with other matters such as cod, climate and migration which would involve the need to cooperate with Scotland and New Foundland.

The Chair proposed that the yearly NMTT General Assembly will be held when the Climate Change Forum conference closed.

### 3. **Mackerel debate**

The Chair informed of an e-mail from Dorothy Dankel the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2021 on the discussion on pelagic stocks which should urge the NMTT to reconsider a press relief on how to deal with the sharing of the stocks. The Board took note of Dorothy's proposal and will return to the issue at the General Assembly of the NMTT and/or at the next Board meeting. Some issues related to Brexit may be of interest.

### 4. **NMTT overall information strategy – website**

Lars informed that the NMTT website is continuously updated. We may have more visitors in connection with the conference. The NMTT website is based on the Wix set up and is easy to manage. Lars will take another look at the issue. Jesper reminded of the need to inform that the funding of the Climate Change conference is from the Nordic Council of Ministers. Lars will look into the issue. Jesper underlined the need for NMTT to ensure that its messages could reach a wider audience.

### 5. **NMTT history – website**

Odma will contact Hans Lassen and check the status of his work on NMTT history (and Sten Sverdrup on his personal status).

### 6. **Financial status**

Lars informed about the most recent financial periode. More expenditure is on the way related to the two on-going projects.

### 7. **Any other business** including The Artic Ocean and other international processes, Aquaculture, Crew Payment Systems in Nordic Fisheries.

The chair informed on his meeting with ICES yesterday. The Fishers Pay project is waiting for the contribution from Iceland. At this stage the project reveals that the fishermen in the Nordic countries show that they are well paid and they receive a share of the (increasing) rent. The main problem is that they don't know their monthly wages which is different from one month to the next. Thus it is difficult for them to plan their own spendings and investments. The size of the written agreements on pay varies between the nordic countries from 1 page (DK) to 25 pages (N). In Iceland the system is quite different. The value of the catch is shared between the owners of the vessel, the processing industry and the fisherman whereas the fisherman's wage is fixt. However, fishermen will benefit from rent increases.

The NMTT General Assembly 2021 will be held when the Nordic Climate Change Forum for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Helsingør is closed. 4 members of the NMTT Board are up for election as the 2 year mandate of the following board members will expire: Ásmundur Guðjónsson (FO), Dorothy Dankel (NO), Odma Johannesen (FO), Staffan Waldo (SE). New candidates are welcome.