

WGC(05)7

Regulatory Measure for the Fishing for Salmon at West Greenland for 2005

RECALLING that the Parties to the West Greenland Commission have previously agreed regulatory measures for the West Greenland fishery based on the scientific advice from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES);

The Parties:

- (1) Acknowledge the good work undertaken by Greenland to improve the estimates of the annual catches of salmon taken for private sales and local consumption in Greenland and encourage Greenland to continue this work; and
- (2) Commit to cooperate in the design and implementation of a sampling program that will be closely coordinated with the fishery.

CONSIDERING that ICES considers the stock complex at West Greenland to be outside precautionary limits;

RECOGNIZING that cooperation for the conservation of wild salmon is in their mutual interest, the Parties agree that in 2005 the catch at West Greenland will be restricted to that amount used for internal consumption in Greenland, which in the past has been estimated at 20 tons. There will be no commercial export of salmon;

COMMITTED during the annual session in 2006 to explore the possibility to adopt regulatory measures on a multi-annual basis, subject to unforeseeable developments, as suggested within the 'Next Steps' process.

Denmark (in respect of the Faroe Islands and Greenland) will inform NASCO of the outcome of the 2005 fishery.