

DRAFT AGENDA

MIRAC (Meeting between ICES and the RACs)
26 January, 14:00–27 January, 13:00 2009
ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark
Co-Chair: Mike Sissenwine and ??? (appointed by RACs)

26 January, 14.00

1. Opening and welcome.
2. Adoption of agenda.
3. Progress on following up of action points from the previous MIRAC meeting in January 2008 (Mike Sissenwine, PowerPoint, Doc 4).
4. Cooperation: Status in 2008.

Annotation: The Chair will conduct a Tour de table and in particular invite RACs to comment on the cooperation between RACs and ICES in 2008.

ICES' will report on its experience of participating in RAC meetings in 2008 (Mike Sissenwine, Doc 5).

The Meeting is invited to discuss how the change in timing of advice has functioned. Furthermore the meeting is invited to discuss how to improve the RACs cooperation with the scientists and on how national science institutes and scientists fit into the picture.

16:00–16:15 Coffee break

5. Reform of the ICES advisory structure and new timing of Advice (Hans Lassen, Doc 6)
 - a. Overview of the reform and how it has functioned in 2008.
 - b. Benchmark and data compilation workshops where stakeholder inputs are expected.
 - c. ICES Advice. The meeting is invited to discuss the form and format of the ICES advice including a “traffic light approach” for the quality of the ICES assessments.

Annotation: The meeting will review the recent experience with the benchmark process (only one workshop has been conducted at the time of the meeting: The Benchmark Workshop on Roundfish 16–23 January).

6. Development of Management Plans – how can ICES and the RACs work together on this? (Doc 7, PowerPoint presentation on strategy in such evaluations).

Annotation: ICES is often asked to do simulations in order to find the most suitable combination of parameters for a management plan. This is in order to optimize yield as well as minimise risk for stock depletion and, based on such simulations, consider if the plan is precautionary. ICES will present the strategy in such evaluations. The meeting is invited to consider how such evaluations can take the Johannesburg requirement of advice based on MSY into account.

Close of first day (18:00)

Social event

27 January, 09.00

7. Young fishermen's participation in ICES ASC. How was it in Helsinki 2007 and in Halifax 2008. What is the way forward? 2009 (Doc 8).
8. ICES and RAC meetings in 2009 of common interest (Mike Sissenwine, Doc 9 and Doc 10).

Annotation: The meeting is invited to discuss how to keep each other updated on dates, events and meetings, practical arrangements for cooperation between RACs and ICES, and procedures for presenting advice.

9. EC requests dealt with by ICES in 2008 (Henrik Sparholt, Doc11).

Annotation: the presentation will focus on those requests that are generated as a result of RACs approach to EC.

11:00–11:15 Coffee break

10. RAC's research and advisory needs, including issues on which the RACs might request EC to seek ICES advice (Ann Bell, Doc 12, Luc van Hoof, Doc 13).

Annotation: Imares (Netherlands) is currently studying how results from DCR projects can be better disseminated. Based on this presentation the meeting is invited to consider how communication of studies and other science projects can best be disseminated. ICES will report on its work on developing standards and criteria for data collection under DCR (ICES contributions Doc 14).

11. Conclusion and action points.

Closure (13.00)