



Reykjavík, 10 June 2010

Sæmark Seafood Ltd.

Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*) and wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*) longline/handline and Danish seine fisheries in the Icelandic Exclusive Economic Zone

Marine Stewardship Council Certification

Certification Body: Vottunarstofan Tún ehf.

Nominations for Membership of Assessment Team

Vottunarstofan Tún (TÚN) is undertaking assessment of the above fisheries against the Marine Stewardship Council Principles and Criteria for Sustainable Fishing.

TÚN is preparing to appoint a team to conduct the assessment. Collectively the team will combine expertise in the areas of stock evaluation, ecosystem impacts and management relevant to the assessed fisheries.

The persons listed below have been proposed as team members on the basis of their expertise in the aforementioned areas, as outlined in the summaries below. The assessment coordinator from TÚN will be **Dr. Gunnar Á. Gunnarsson**.

Stakeholders are invited to provide comments on the suitability or otherwise of any of the nominees by **16.00 GMT Sunday 20th June 2010**.

Comments should be sent to:

Dr. Gunnar Á. Gunnarsson
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Assessment team nominees (in alphabetical order):

1. Dr. Ásgeir Daníelsson: Nominated assessor, expert on Principle 3 issues.

Ásgeir Daníelsson graduated in 1985 with Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Manchester. Dr. Daníelsson currently holds the position of head of research and forecasting in the Economics department of the Central Bank of Iceland, whilst regularly lecturing on economics for the University of Iceland and University of Akureyri. He has over 20 years experience of macroeconomic analysis for the Central Bank of Iceland and previously the National Economic Institute. He has, since the early 1990s, sat on or been involved in and advised numerous national and international task forces analyzing the utilization of living marine resources and fisheries management. In 2001-2004 he was a member of a committee, set up by the Icelandic Minister of Fisheries charged with the task of formulating a long term policy on exploitation of fishstocks. He was worked with the "Nairobi group" set up by the UN's UNEP and UNSD, and was later also commissioned by the FAO, to provide a guide on the incorporation of environmental factors into national accounting, with special regard to fisheries and the living marine environment. Dr. Daníelsson has written and co-authored several peer-reviewed publications, as well as research reports, on the utilization of fishstocks in Icelandic waters, on the efficiency of the ITQs and on environmental and economic accounting of fisheries.

2. Dr. Guðrún Marteinsdóttir: Nominated assessor, expert on Principle 1 issues.

Guðrún Marteinsdóttir graduated in 1991 with Ph.D. in Biology from Rutgers University in New Jersey. From 2001 she has been a Professor of Fishery Science in the Department of Biology at the University of Iceland. Dr. Marteinsdóttir has over two decades experience of fisheries scientific research. Her expertise is the biology and recruitment of demersal fish stocks, especially the genetics, recruitment and environmental factors affecting cod. However, she has also conducted numerous research projects and (co-)authored peer-reviewed publications on haddock, halibut, saithe, wolfish, salmon. She served as the Principal Researcher and Program Leader of an eight year long research project authorised by the Icelandic Marine Research Institute on the influence of stock structure and environmental conditions on the recruitment processes of cod.

Dr. Marteinsdóttir has served as the coordinator of numerous nationally and/or EU funded fish biology research projects. During the last 15 years she has served on several EU, NAFO and ICES committees devoted to research on living resources, climate change and environmental policy. She is familiar with the MSC fisheries assessment methodology and has served as an assessor of MSC fishery pre-assessments.

3. Dr. Gunnar Stefánsson: Nominated assessor, expert on Principles 1 and 3 issues.

Gunnar Stefánsson graduated in 1983 with Ph.D. in Statistics from Ohio State University. He is currently a Professor of Mathematics at the University of Iceland. Dr. Stefánsson is an experienced fishery population analyst, with stock assessment as his primary expertise. He headed the Modeling Division of the Icelandic Marine Research Institute (MRI) in 1983-1999 and served as MRI's Deputy Director in 1999-2000. He has served as the chairman of numerous committees, working groups and policy meetings, set up by MRI, ICES, FAO or individual countries, dealing with fisheries management, fish stock assessment and evaluation methods. He chaired the ICES Working Group on Methods of Fish Stock Assessments 1991-1995 and the MRI advisory committee for utilization of living marine resources 1992-1998. Dr. Stefánsson has authored and co-authored



numerous peer-reviewed publications on those same subjects. Among his current research projects are statistical models of marine ecosystems and marine surveys using autonomous underwater vehicles. He is well acquainted with the MSC fishery assessment methodology and has served as an assessor of MSC fishery pre-assessments.

4. Dr. Sigmar Steingrímsson: Nominated lead assessor, expert on Principle 2 issues.

Sigmar Steingrímsson graduated in 1989 with Ph.D. in Marine Biology from the University of Liverpool. He currently holds the position of department expert on environmental impact assessment (EIA) with the Icelandic National Planning Agency. Dr. Steingrímsson has a long experience of research into marine biology with the ecology of the seabed as his principal expertise. He has been involved in the designing and managing of fundamental research e.g. on the mapping of benthic invertebrates and cold water coral reefs in Icelandic waters and studied the distribution of vulnerable deep water habitats around Iceland in relation to bottom fishing. He has also directed research on the ecology of several coastal areas in connection with EIA. He was a member of a government committee on the conservation of vulnerable deep water habitats and has represented Iceland in numerous working groups on marine ecology within ICES, including ecosystem effects of fishing activities. Dr. Steingrímsson was for several years heavily involved in Iceland's participation in the OSPAR convention. He has attended several seminars on the MSC fishery assessment methodology and during the last two years he has served as leader of MSC fishery pre-assessments.