

CNL(02)45

Conditions for Attendance by Observers at NASCO Meetings

Inter-Government Observers

Representatives of inter-government organizations may attend meetings of the Council and of the regional Commissions of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) and may be invited by the President, or the Chairman of a Commission, to make a statement if they so wish.

Non-Government Observers

The conditions governing attendance at NASCO meetings are as follows:

1. The Secretary, in consultation with the President, shall decide whether the objectives of the organization applying are compatible with those of NASCO;
2. The non-government organization shall apply not less than 15 days before the meeting of the Council;
3. No more than two representatives of the non-government organization shall be allowed to attend the meeting;
4. The representatives of the non-government organization shall not be permitted to make any statements of any kind at the meetings except, at the discretion of the President, during the Opening Session and at sessions that are defined "Special Sessions" by the Council. In addition, one joint five-minute statement may be made by non-government organizations at the Opening Session of each Commission meeting;
5. The non-government organization shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that it has, as an organization, a legitimate interest in the proceedings;
6. Any NGO with observer status to NASCO that has not communicated with the Secretariat or the Contracting Party concerned or attended at least one Annual Meeting of NASCO in the previous three years should cease to be an accredited NGO to NASCO but may reapply in writing to the Secretary;
7. During NASCO's Annual Meeting, following the close of the Opening Session of the Council, accredited NGOs may not issue press releases or other information to the media on agenda items under discussion at the meeting, until after the Council has agreed its own Press Release;
8. The non-government organization shall comply with any other conditions imposed by the Council or by the Secretary;

9. Non-adherence to these conditions by a non-government organization may lead to the suspension of that organization's observer status by the Council for one or more meetings;
10. Observer status shall apply to all plenary sessions of the Council and Commissions, whether they be at the Annual Meeting or at inter-sessional meetings. Observer status shall not apply to meetings of NASCO's Working Groups or Committees.

Media Representatives

Media representatives shall be able to attend the meetings of the Council and of the regional Commissions of the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) subject to the following conditions:

- 1) Media representatives shall register with the NASCO Secretariat on arrival at the meeting and provide a Press card or a letter of authorisation or other documentation from the appropriate company;
- 2) Media representatives may only attend the Opening Session of the Council;
- 3) No more than two representatives of a particular publication or company shall be allowed to attend the meeting;
- 4) Media representatives shall not be permitted to make statements at the meetings;
- 5) The use of cameras and/or recording equipment is permitted during the Opening Session of the Council;
- 6) At the discretion of the President and Secretary a Press Conference may be held at the close of the Annual Meeting;
- 7) Media representatives shall comply with these and with any other conditions imposed by the Council or by the Secretary.