

# Code of Conduct for Industry Observers attending Benchmarks, Data Compilation Workshops, Review and Advice Drafting Groups plus ACOM meetings

## 1 PURPOSE

This document sets a standard for Code of Conduct for Industry Observers when they take part in Benchmarks, Data Compilation Workshops, Review and Advice Drafting Groups plus ACOM meetings (in this document called open ICES Meetings). The Code of Conduct will deal with two aspects: 1) the formal procedural matters for joining open ICES Meetings, and 2) rule of engagement at open ICES Meeting for Industry Observers.

This document should be view as an addition to, or adoption of, the general ICES Guidelines, and not as a replacement of these. Industry Observers shall at any time follow the ICES Guidelines specified for participation open ICES Meetings.

## 2 INTRODUCTION

A number of industry associations, producer organizations and Advisory Councils has achieved observer status in ICES (<http://ices.dk/community/get-involved/Pages/List-of-ICES-observers.aspx>), which allows them to participate as observes in open ICES Meetings. In order to make the participation of Industry Observers fully transparent and consistent, the Northern Pelagic Working Group (NPWG), a subgroup of the European Association of Fish Producers Organisations (EAPO), have developed this Code of Conduct which describes rules of engagement and guidelines participating as an observer at open ICES meetings.

## 3 OBSERVER STATUS

Observes have to follow the general ICES rules for gaining observer status in open ICES meetings (<http://ices.dk/community/advisory-process/Pages/How-to-join-the-advisory-process.aspx>).

## 4 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

4.1 During the meeting and when signing up it is the responsibility of the observer to clearly state under which Organization, Association or Advisory Council participation takes place.

4.2 The observer should aim at keeping the ICES secretariat or the chair of the meeting orientated on the coming and going of the observer. This apply both in cases where the participation is by an electronic connection and in person.

4.3. Participation in ICES meetings imply investment of time and resources to cover travel plus subsistence to the meeting venue, which will be borne by the relevant observers organizations.

## 5 GUIDELINES

5.1 The observers may make oral statements during the meeting in accordance with the practice decided by the chair. If nothing else is decided by the chair, the observer can make oral statement upon the invitation of the Chair.

5.2 The observer may distribute documents at meetings through the Chair.

5.3 The observer may engage in other meeting activities, subgroups etc.as approved by the Chair.

5.4 All observers admitted to a meeting shall comply with all rules and procedures applicable to other participants in the meeting.

5.5 Observers may not insist on alterations or edits being made to the meeting report. Observers may not make minority statements in the report.