

First Addendum to Memorandum of Understanding

**Between
NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, USA and
the Institute of Marine Research, Norway
On
Cooperation in Marine Ecosystems Research and Assessment**

With the increased commitments of our respective governments to responsible fishing, and multispecies and ecosystem-based management, we are particularly interested in encouraging cooperation and exchange in marine ecosystem and aquaculture research and assessment. The term marine ecosystem encompasses both the large marine systems (LME) in the northern hemisphere and the related coastal ecosystems. The cooperation includes productivity/oceanography, living resources and fisheries, pollution, climate change, ecosystem health, impact of aquaculture, socioeconomics, governance and ecosystem models.

In September 2008, the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs of Norway and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States of America executed a Memorandum of Understanding intended to strengthen, promote and further develop cooperation on the conservation and management of living marine resources. This First Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding (Addendum) will serve to encourage and support cooperation in four topic areas:

Article 1: Joint sponsorship of workshops or symposia on the assessment and management of living marine resources of the northern hemisphere and aquaculture

Such meetings would review the status of knowledge in North Pacific and North Atlantic ecosystems and provide a focus for future cooperation. They would provide fora for evaluating and advancing the scientific basis for conservation, management, and utilization of the living marine resources of the North Pacific and North Atlantic and development of healthy aquaculture. Each meeting would be organized and sponsored jointly by the two institutions and would encompass the international community as appropriate. These meetings would not duplicate existing efforts but would be closely coordinated with the activities of regional scientific organizations such as ICES, PICES and NAFO.

Article 2: Exchange of expertise and information

The results of scientific investigations carried out at our institutions are reported at scientific meetings and in the literature. Information is also exchanged on an ongoing basis among scientists working on similar problems in different institutions. We wish to encourage informal communication among scientists in our organizations and improved availability of research results.

Article 3: Extended visits of scientists

Extended visits (a few weeks to a year) of scientists between the different institutions would provide opportunity to exchange information and methodologies in depth and would encourage development of scientific expertise in fields of common interest. Such visits might be supported for their educational or training value, or for direct research interaction or collaboration. In some cases, it may be desirable to exchange scientists in parallel jobs or with similar expertise to do work in corresponding programs in the other country.

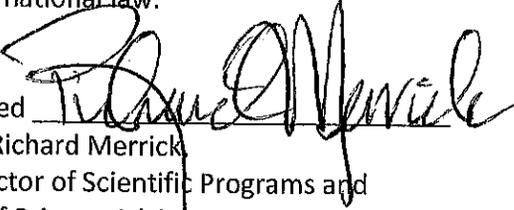
Article 4: Cooperative research on common scientific issues and methodological problems

Joint research would be developed among existing programs within our institutions or through establishment of problem-specific cooperative research programs that would include participants from our two institutions. In such cases, a team of scientists from the institutions would address a common problem together, develop a research plan, and work jointly toward its solution.

Article 5: Coordination and planning

Each signatory institute agrees to appoint a coordinator for the joint program. A coordinator's meeting would be held every two years. Following each of these meetings, the coordinators would draft a cooperative plan for the next two years. Following review and acceptance by the directors of the signatory institutions, this plan would provide a framework for cooperative activities during the succeeding biennium.

This Addendum is not intended to limit cooperative activities to the signatory institutions. We strongly encourage participation by scientists at universities and other research institutions linked closely activities at NOAA Fisheries and the Institute of Marine Research. When possible, the research activities should include cooperation with Department of Fisheries and Oceans of Canada (DFO). This Addendum provides no financial commitment. While this Addendum shall serve to encourage and support cooperation, the parties do not intend this Addendum to be legally binding, and this Addendum shall not be governed by international law.

Signed 
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Signed 
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Date: 16 FEB 2012

Date: 16. 02. 12