

## CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

### STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

#### APPENDIX II

##### DISTRICT ADVISORY PANELS (Puerto Rico, St. Croix, and St. Thomas-St. John)

#### Objectives and Duties

1. The three Panels (one for each area: of Puerto Rico, St. Croix, and St. Thomas-St. John) shall offer to the Council advice on the assessments and specifications contained in each fishery management plan for each fishery management area within the Council's geographical area of concern, with particular regard to:
  - (a) The capacity and the extent to which the fishing vessels of the United States will harvest the resources considered in fishery management plans.
  - (b) The effect of such fishery management plans on local economies and social structures.
  - (c) Potential conflicts between user groups of a given fishery resource.
  - (d) Enforcement problems peculiar to each fishery with emphasis on the expected need for enforcement resources.
2. The Panels shall offer advice and/or prepare comments for the Council on (a) fishery management plans or amendments thereto during preparation of such plans or amendments by the Council, on (b) fishery management plans prepared by the Secretary and transmitted to the Council for review, on (c) the effectiveness of the plans/amendments which have been implemented.
3. Panel members shall keep the Council advised of current trends and developments in fishery matters.
4. The Panels shall perform such other necessary and appropriate advisory duties as may be required by the Council to carry out its functions under the Act.

#### Members and Chairpersons

1. The Panels shall have a total of not more than 15 members each, all of whom shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of the Council.

2. The Panels shall be composed of persons who are either actually engaged in harvesting, processing, marketing or consuming fish, or are knowledgeable and interested in the conservation and management of the fisheries within the Council's jurisdiction. Each of the DAPs include 12 representatives of the commercial and recreational sectors, plus one member from the local government and two representatives from NGOs. The Panels shall also reflect expertise and interest from the standpoint of geographical distribution, industry and other user groups, and the economic and social groups encompassed in the Council's geographical area of concern.
3. Members of the Panels shall be appointed by the Council for a period of three years, and may be reappointed at the pleasure of the Council. In case of a vacancy occurring before a Council meeting, the Chair of the Council may appoint another member from the pool of candidate records filed at the Council office.
4. The Chair of the Panels shall be appointed by the Chair of the Council from among the members of the Panels. Each Panel Chair will represent the respective Panel at Council meetings.

#### Administrative Provisions

1. The Panel shall meet at the request of the Panel Chair with the approval of the Council Chair as often as necessary to fulfill the Panel's responsibilities, taking into consideration time and budget constraints.
2. The Executive Director of the Council shall provide such staff assistance and other support as the Council considers necessary for the Panels, within budget limitations.
3. Members of the Panels will receive a stipend of \$100 per meeting day, subject to availability of funds. Travel expenses will be borne by the Council.
4. The Panels shall report to the Chairperson of the Council or designee.
5. Security clearances for Panels members may be requested as necessary.
6. Panel membership will be terminated in case a member is absent without appropriate excuse for two consecutive meetings.