

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**  
**between**  
**the Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography**  
**(VNIRO), Russia**  
**and**  
**the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Norway**

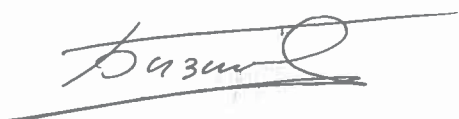
The Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (hereinafter – VNIRO) and the Institute of Marine Research (hereinafter – IMR) hereby agree to cooperate in research, education, and training in order to monitor and study marine ecosystems in changing environments, and to develop scientific advice for management of living aquatic resources in the marine ecosystems of mutual interest.

IMR provides scientific advice to the Norwegian authorities, society and industry on questions related to the ecosystems of the Arctic, Antarctic, Barents, Norwegian and North Seas and the Norwegian coastal zone and to aquaculture.

VNIRO is the head Russian research organization in the field of complex studies of living marine resources, their formation, management, conservation and reproduction; marine ecology; mariculture in inland and coastal seas; aquatic biological resources processing technology; international fisheries issues and cooperation with foreign countries; improving the regulatory framework of the study, conservation and sustainable use of marine biological resources.

This Memorandum of Understanding defines the following areas of cooperation between the Parties, relating to the scientific foundation for conservation and management of living marine resources:

- development, coordination and implementation of joint research programs in the field of marine ecosystems, including fisheries;



- arrangement of conferences, seminars, meetings, workshops, bilateral consultations and exchange of specialists and scientific observers in the field of marine ecosystems, including fisheries.

The Parties will promote cooperation within international organizations to develop scientific foundations for conservation and management of living marine resources.

This Memorandum enters into force on the date of its signing.

This Memorandum is valid for five years and is automatically extended for another five years, unless one of the Parties within 90 days before the expiration of this Memorandum in writing notifies the other Party of its intention to terminate it.

This Memorandum is not an international agreement and does not create legal rights and obligations of the Parties.

Done at 20th of May 2014 in two copies in English.

Authorised Representatives:

For the Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO):



Viacheslav A. Bizikov  
Acting Director

For the Institute of Marine Research (IMR)



Tore Nepstad  
Managing Director

**Areas of scientific cooperation**  
**within the Memorandum of Understanding between**  
**the Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography**  
**(VNIRO), Russia**  
**and**  
**the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Norway**

1. Promote methods of stocks abundance estimation and assessment, short- and long-term forecast of stocks of fish and invertebrates, using for example:
  - traditional techniques (bottom trawl, hydroacoustic surveys);
  - direct methods, such as satellite VMS data and fishery statistics;
  - stock assessment modelling.
2. Strengthen the research cooperation to quantify and predict the effects of short- and long-term climate variability and change on the productivity of marine ecosystems, and to demonstrate ways of implementing such knowledge into science based advice.
3. Collaboration on genetic analysis of fish and invertebrates using molecular genetic methods.
4. Collaboration in aquaculture.
5. Exchange of scientists and scientific observers aboard research vessels of both sides.

