

## **Terms of Reference**

### **SACLANTCEN Environmental Policy/Mitigation Procedures**

#### **Objective**

The Panel will review and provide an expert opinion on SACLANTCEN's Draft Policy for protection of the marine environment. Procedures for use of active sonar, and methods of monitoring mitigation measures used during active sonar trails will be reviewed.

#### **Membership**

The Panel will be chaired by Mr. E.J. Harland of the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency, UK. The Panel will consist of sonar, marine mammal and environmental policy experts nominated by member nations, at the invitation of SACLANTCEN. To ensure the objectivity and credibility of this review, lack of security clearance by nominated participants (such as national environmental law specialists) will not exclude their participation, although the Chairman will reserve the right to hold restricted sessions for the discussion of classified information. Nations are to cover the travel and per diem costs of the invited experts.

#### **Timing**

The Panel will convene from p.m. 17 - 19 June 1998, at the SACLANT Undersea Research Centre in La Spezia, Italy. The Panel's report will be provided to SACLANTCEN, with a copy to participating nations, by 17 July 1998.

#### **Considerations and advice respecting Environmental Policy and Mitigation procedures**

National inputs and presentations will be coordinated by the Chairman. To enhance efficiency of the proceedings, members will be provided in advance with SACLANTCEN's draft policy formulated from existing national policies. The panel will

- Review the objective for sufficiency, and modify, if needed
- Compare national environmental policies/practices
- Review Centre draft policy, procedures and monitoring methods
- Modify the draft policy/procedures/methods, as required
- Forward dissenting opinions, if any

#### **Report Dissemination**

Upon completion, the Panel's Report will be reviewed by SACLANT for public release.

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